

Branch Offices:—LONDON, 168, STRAND; NICE, 15, QUAI MASSÉNA.

PRICE 40 CENTIMS

Figure 1. The effect of the concentration of the polymer solution on the apparent viscosity of the polymer solution. The apparent viscosity of the polymer solution increases with increasing the concentration of the polymer solution.

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PRICE 40 CENTS

AUSTRIA AND THE PEACE OF EUROPE.

by inheritance and by tradition. They have a great belief in their own independence; they have developed a passionate hatred of the Austrians, and they have a complete disregard of hardships. It is inevitable that, during the time which must elapse before they are reduced to submission, much blood will be spilt and many of the horrors inseparable from guerrilla warfare will be experienced. The protracted and desperate resistance offered to the Austrian occupation in 1878 is of evil omen in this respect. It is certain, however, that the movement will be crushed, whether it takes days or weeks or a month to crush it, unless it is fostered from outside. This is the danger of which all the world at present is so acutely conscious and through in this respect things look somewhat better than they looked ten days ago, would be to pretend that the chances of trouble have entirely disappeared. It is not Muslim fanaticism, Bosnian or Turkish, that the chief danger lies. It lies in the direction first of Serbia and Montenegro, and next of the Pan Slavists throughout the Slavonic lands—especially of course, throughout Russia. The Austrian Government has shown a wise anxiety in the matter of the two neighbouring principalities, and there seems reason to believe that their efforts to keep those States strictly neutral will be successful. General Skobelev has been officially and officially disowned; he has been recalled to St. Petersburg and ordered to expedite his departure. The Government is acquitted of any part in his warlike speeches. Nor if his indirect object was to stir up strife between Franco and her old enemy and to gain an ally in his anti-German campaign, can be thought to have succeeded. The Parisian only echoed the opinion of the Grand Duke Constantine in pronouncing the hero of Plevna politically mad. Yet, unfortunately, a failure to obtain the active sympathy of Western Europe does not of necessity imply a failure to excite the morant and unhappy East. General Skobelev's words, expressing, as they did, the desire at the bottom of many a Russian mind, have roused the hope that his desire may at no distant day be gratified. It is well that the danger should be realised and faced by those responsible for the direction of affairs in this country, and not by those elements only who are never capable of political reflection. It is too evidently the desire and the intention of an active party in Russia to seek the earliest opportunity for violently attacking the Eastern settlement at which all Europe arrived in 1878. The attack is primarily directed against Austria as the oppressor of the Slavs, and against Germany as the too influential meddler in Austrian affairs; but, in point of fact, it is a hybryd and everybody outside the Russian border that is to feel the weight of Russian discontent. For this is the real Russian cry of the cry of which General Skobelev has made himself the mouthpiece. Russia is profoundly unhappy. Her great journalist, Ivan Tourgueneff, in the story

What London suffered during the period of its occupation will never be fully told. The French army, composed of such a heterogeneous and ill-disciplined force, occupied certain strategic positions in the suburbs. But a very considerable number of troops were quartered inside the very heart of the metropolis, and did pretty much as they pleased. For two days the metropolis was in a state of anarchy, and the administration of the French officials, being inexperienced, succeeded all others. Every arm and ammunition shop and every householder were devoted of lethal weapons. All the available provisions of the capital were seized, no shopping being allowed to touch more than a certain quantity of food. The troops and troops were placed in every public building specially available for the purpose.

The deprivation of firearms was not perhaps a matter of much consequence. It would have been rather madness on the part of a disorganised army to attempt to resist the overbearing force of the French armies, and no one much regretted, therefore, the loss of rifles and revolvers. The French, on the other hand, were glad to obtain for their own use every much better weapon which they could get in their own country. They were wont to revolvers taken from English shops with pride, and the greatly boasted of the acquisition of a good revolver. Had they confined themselves to the taking of weapons, they would have been little complaint then. But though the French commander, on entering the city, issued a declaration to the effect that no plundering would be permitted, nearly all the shops were emptied of their stock, and emptied within a few hours of the arrival of the troops, and those who went to complain were received with jeers and laughter.

The worst privation of all, however, was that which the unfortunate people who were left in the metropolis had to suffer. The embargo having been laid upon all stores and provisions, it is easy to see how this occurred. At first it was the intention of the French to have issued a full ration to every person without much stint. But as the news came in of the English armies outside the capital came in and supplies were short, the French commander determined to save as much as he could for his men and give out to the people as little as possible. London is a large city, peopled by millions, and it depends upon the sea for its food, upon the ships, masts, and rigging, and upon the stores of comestibles. Once stop this supply, and the actual quantity of food inside the metropolis would last but a very little while.

The French commander saw this, and he determined that he would not permit the English to starve. He would not permit a general uprising, for he looked forward to the captive population being his principal bulwark should he suffer a reverse or be blocked in without coming ashore to fight the terms with the English.

But while he determined to keep the happy people in their homes, he gave them only a minimum of food for their support.

to 4,000 families are taking similar actions. It would, therefore, have been a small number to be killed in this way. The local authorities have no objections to their remaining until arrangements can be made for their departure. Since they have been in Austria there has not been a single instance of misconduct amongst them, and, notwithstanding the present condition, there has not been one case of dishonesty. Perhaps it is in that respect that they differ from their non-Jewish fellow-countrymen, with whom General Ignatieff has been particularly concerned. At all times, he is in variance with fact when he says it is in language and costume. That applies to the Jews on the Galician frontier. At Kieff, Odessa, and other large towns they speak the same dialect and wear the same clothes as their Christian fellow-countrymen. These latter, however, do sometimes make coloured statements. Dr. Shafer brought twenty-eight children with him this morning from Brody. They will probably be adopted by families of the religion residing in Vienna and other provinces. At this time, it is, as afternoon that I should see them, and as one of them speak German I had no difficulty in conversing with them. They are all Jews, having children, varying in age from three to about twenty. I questioned one of them, and he told me of the circumstances attending the wrecking of his father's wine store at Kieff. He told me that he had witnessed on the Baikoff Hill, in the neighbourhood of the city, the assassination of four children and three boys and a girl, by a mob of Cossacks. The manner in which he described the scene and his ready answers to my numerous queries left not the slightest doubt in my mind as to the accuracy of his narrative. The boy, of the same name, named Abrahamoff, resided with his father in a small quarter of Kieff. From the window of their house, which was pillaged like the rest, he saw a Jew and his three children massacred by means of what he described to me as a long iron rod. As soon as the mob had left their neighbourhood, he ventured outside to ascertain whether assistance could still be of avail to the four victims. "They were without life," he added, "and neither and I could not speak a word, we were so horrified at the sight before us." I interviewed the boy, and from all that I heard of the same tale, and from all of them I learnt the same tale of pillage and wanton outrage, and that two former children had witnessed actual murder, and it is only to be apprehended that on one-tenth part of the cases of massacre and pillage undoubtedly did occur will ever be brought to light.

Mr. E. CLARKE, however, who was in favour of waiting to see whether a petition would be presented, reminded the Home Secretary that in the second election, when a second candidate went to the poll, the question was left to the Election Judge.

Mr. Sergeant SIMON contended that the House had not parted with the whole of its jurisdiction, and if it must wait for the action of the Election Judges a notoriously disqualified person might sit and vote until a petition had been presented and decided.

It is stated that when the Prime Minister moves a vote for an additional annuity to Prince Leopold, Mr. Labouchere will meet the proposition with the negative.

A letter to the Prime Minister having reference to the grave state of the relations existing between the Government of the Congo

aying pupils. To adopt such a course would be to deprive musical ability among the upper classes of means of access to the college, and would stamp it with a narrow and constricted character which ought to be avoided in all national institutions. He wanted to include all classes throughout the United Kingdom. What he desired was an institution bearing the same relation to the art of music as our great public schools, such as Eton and Winchester, bore to general education. There would be two classes of pupils—those on the

There can be no doubt that Jumbo at the present time does not show the least sign of ferocity which has been alleged as his chief reason for his sale. He has been very friendly to all numbers of adults, but not only by an immense number of children and "unhappy" females, upon whom Jumbo has practised a few innocent tricks. There have also mingled with the public a number of professional detectives, who were employed to take close notice of all his ways, in order to establish the necessity of his being put to death. Mr. E. J. Stewart, upon whose direction several men have been employed for this purpose, reports that nothing whatever has occurred since the sale was announced which could lead to any unpleasant result being anticipated. The strangers, both adults and children, have not only crowded before his house, and fed him; but in

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NICE.—15, QUAI MASSÉNA.

Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 6-7, 1882.

THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT AND THE QUEEN.

Following the practice of the Parliament on the previous occasions on which the Sovereign's life has been in danger from the attempts of miscreants or madmen, a joint Address to the Queen was on Monday night adopted by both Houses, expressing, on the part of their members and of the country at large, horror and indignation at the outrage of Thursday last, and heartfelt congratulations upon her Majesty's happy escape. The Address, it is needless to say, was unanimously agreed to by the House of Commons. The Premier, in introducing the subject, dwelt upon the fact that whilst in other countries, where these outrages have been rife, they have been committed by men often of no mean intelligence and in consequence of real or fancied grievances, yet in England and in the case of the Queen they have had no connection whatever with political discontent, and no one of even average sanity has been found to raise a hand against her Majesty's life. A low mental capacity and a morbid desire for notoriety have been the only apparent incentives to this as well as to the previous attacks upon the Sovereign. The Queen's courage was not only as conspicuous on this occasion as formerly when the assassin's shot was fired, but her Majesty's first care was to ascertain if anyone had suffered injury, thus showing how truly and constantly she has the welfare of the least of her subjects at heart. It was not the practice of Parliament, Mr. Gladstone reminded the House, to include in the Queen's reference to any life but the Queen's; but her Majesty's joy at her escape from harm will be gratefully received by the country, especially in the case of the Princess, her daughter, who was exposed to equal and imminent peril. The Prime Minister, as is his wont on these occasions, spoke with some degree of stiffness and formality, and it was reserved for Sir Stafford Northcote to infuse real warmth into the speeches by the graceful and genuine sentences in which he referred to the ever-growing affection and gratitude of the people for their Sovereign, and of the thankfulness felt at her escape, not only in England, but throughout the civilised world. The sentiments embodied in the joint Address of the Lords and Commons are those of her Majesty's subjects throughout the length and breadth of her dominions. While messages and addresses are pouring in from Foreign Courts and from all classes and corporate bodies at home, one demonstration of loyal sympathy has been made of which the Queen has personally shown her gracious appreciation. The boys of Eton School were received by her Majesty on Monday and presented an address. As two of them were present at the time she was seized, and possibly prevented him from carrying out his purpose, the distinction conferred upon the School was eminently a proper one. The nine hundred Eton boys who took part in the ceremony on Monday will bear away with them a remembrance of the gracious Lady who thanked their comrades for their assistance, who could not fail to have its good effect upon the coming generation. As for the miserable author of all this trouble, this is not the place to discuss the measure of his guilt, beyond saying that the means of his stamp ought to receive a plain lesson that they cannot indulge their evil passions with impunity or be allowed to jeopardise a life in which the whole nation has the deepest and most affectionate interest. The universal expression of loyalty and devotion which the incident has elicited is certainly gratifying, but it is due to the Queen herself that every care should be taken to prevent her from again becoming the object of a similar outrage. Sympathy for creatures like Maclean is misplaced, since it only stimulates other miscreants with a love of notoriety to follow his mischievous example.—*Standard.*

THE LAWLESSNESS OF LONDON.

The "ruffianly lawlessness" of the streets of London, to which we have so repeatedly directed the attention of the public, has at last secured for itself recognition from the judicial bench. The weighty remarks of Mr. Justice Hawkins in the Central Criminal Court on Saturday will not, we should hope and expect, be allowed to pass without a very searching inquiry being made into the causes of the alarming state of things which he described. Like other people, until the facts in all their ugly detail were brought before him, the learned judge declared himself incredulous as to the possibility of such scandalous scenes of unchecked violence taking place in the heart of the metropolis. When things have got to such a pass as this the suggestion made by a contemporary of a parliamentary inquiry is not altogether uncalled for. It would be a mistake, however, to censure the police. Notwithstanding the dispiriting exception referred to by Mr. Justice Hawkins, where a constable "assisted" at a murder as a passive spectator, the police, on the whole, do their duty with commendable courage. But there is too much reason to fear that there has been a revival of savagery among the roughs of London, with which the police are not

strong enough to cope. The metropolitan constabulary is not organised on the supposition that any considerable number of the inhabitants of London will use the streets for fighting out their quarrels after the fashion of Capulets and Montagues. Its strength is fixed at a figure proportioned to the ordinary requirements of ordinary times. These are plainly not ordinary times, and there is an urgent necessity for readjusting the forces of order so as to keep pace with the recent abnormal development of the forces of disorder. The formidable fact with which we have to deal is that the new generation of the savages of the slums is more combative and more inclined to organisation than its predecessor. Nearly all these fighting gangs which are the terror of the districts which they haunt are composed of young men under twenty. As a rule, they were boys of eight or nine when the Education Act was passed, and are now vigorous, lawless ruffians of eighteen or nineteen. Two cases which were heard at South-west police-court on Saturday afford an opportune illustration of the methods of these social pests. James Bennett, a youth of nineteen, who has earned an unenviable reputation as captain of the New Cut Gang, was arrested by a constable on Saturday afternoon for gambling. In a moment the policeman was knocked down and set upon by a mob of three or four hundred roughs, who rallied to the cry of "Rescue."

"Almost every Saturday afternoon," said one witness, "gangs of roughs assembled in the same neighbourhood, and they were a terror to the tradesmen and inhabitants." This is bad enough, but it is not so bad as the story told in the same court the same day by a constable who appeared in court with a handbagged hand as a witness against another nineteen-year-old ruffian named Dennis Leary. Leary had knocked the constable down and kicked him. He then took off his belt, smashed the constable's fingers, and attempted to escape. The policeman, whose courage we are glad to see was emphatically commended by the magistrate, kept his hold. A cry seems to have been raised, for in a moment a mob of two or three hundred roughs rushed to the rescue, released Leary, and set upon the policeman. The latter, who was joined by a comrade, gave chase to the prisoner. When in pursuit they were surrounded by a mob of roughs. One of the policemen was nearly felled by a heavy sash-belt thrown at his head, and a number of people came out of the houses and flourished pokers and heavy sticks and threatened to use them. In this case the constables captured their prisoner; but what a pretty spectacle does this present of the readiness of the population in certain quarters to make common cause with the criminal against the policeman! Yet these scenes are common enough—too common, indeed, to attract public attention, except on the very day when the chronic rowdiness of some of our streets has succeeded in attracting the notice of one of her Majesty's judges. There can only be one opinion as to the necessity of suppressing this lawlessness. It must be put down, and put down at once. The richest city in the world cannot afford to allow the rough to get out of hand. If Colonel Henderson can answer for order with his present force, well and good. If he finds, as we suspect will be the case, that he needs more men, he must have them. Nor is it solely the police who are responsible for the peace of our streets. Above the police are the magistrates, and the grand jury was not without justification when it attributed much of the existing lawlessness to the mistaken leniency of the administrators of the law. The mixture of callous indifference and levity with which the police magistrates have long been accustomed to deal with cases of personal violence is undoubtedly one of the main causes of the lawlessness which has at last become absolutely intolerable.—*Full Mail Gazette.*

GENERAL SKOBELEFF.

Telegraphing on Monday night, the St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Standard* says:—
The whole significance of General Skobelev's speech seems scarcely yet to be rightly understood in Europe, owing chiefly to the fact that the personality of the speaker has cast somewhat into the shade attendant circumstances which are of the gravest import, when taken apart or considered merely in relation to his views and action. These circumstances are, indeed, in no way dependent for their existence upon General Skobelev or his doings, and would deserve equal attention had he the "white general," returning from the Teke campaign, chosen the rôle of Cicerone or Collingwood instead of kindling the patriotic ardour of his countrymen against the foreign invader. In the first place, it cannot too strongly be insisted upon, that his denunciations, however ill-timed, are the main, true, thing. This was well pointed out in the debate on the subject, and is acknowledged by most even of those who condemn General Skobelev's action on the score of policy, and foresee nothing but disaster to their country in the event of a war with Germany. Amongst the educated classes, and especially in the highest circles of St. Petersburg, the renewal of the Pan Slavist agitation has given rise to the gloomiest anticipations, and is looked upon as the certain forerunner of shame and disaster. But, unfortunately, this is the case in Russia, where four-fifths of the population have yet to emerge from the slough of ignorance and superstition into which they are plunged; and the general feeling throughout the country is undoubtedly one of intense patriotic pride in the popular hero whose deeds on the battlefield have been eclipsed by his vigorous denunciation and bold defiance of the hated *Nyemets*. "Skobelev is right!" "He is a Russian if you like," and such like phrases are heard on all sides; and his popularity has risen to such a height that it is hard to imagine the Emperor dares not really punish him, though placed by his escape in an awkward and even humiliating position.

More important, however, for the moment, even than the truth or error of General Skobelev's opinion, is the second point to which I wish to call renewed and earnest attention, just now—namely, that Gen. Skobelev himself, though perfectly sincere in all he uttered, was, after all, but the agent of other and more dangerous agitators, whose sagacity never showed to greater advantage than in their choice of him as spokesman. Europe has been, of course, perfectly well, that a greater danger than that which convulsed it in 1876, but the careful distinction often drawn between official and unofficial Russia shows that one of the most important elements in this conspiracy against the general peace is the unknown or insufficiently considered. If by official Russia is meant M. de Giers, no doubt his assurances on the subject of Russia's Foreign Policy leave little to be desired, but it must not be forgotten that M. de Giers himself is

in peril. He is in possession, it is true, of a fortified position, one which, long-leagued by an astute enemy, has until now resisted his untoward fate; but a constant system of tapping and mining has enabled the besieger to approach the walls and prepare everything for the final assault. The signal has been given, the enemy is in the breach, and the peace of Europe depends upon his being driven back ignominiously into the ditch, as there is some reason to hope will be the case. I have more than once spoken of the desire attributed to General Ignatieff to assume the direction of Russia's Foreign affairs, and his consequent antagonism to the present holder of that office, Mr. Giers. I have explained how this desire was arranged and carried out without even his cognisance, dashed the hopes that were necessarily based upon hostility between Slav and German. This disappointment, added to the increasing unpopularity of the present holder of the office, Ignatieff, already the tool of the Slavophile party, to whom his elevation was due, to embrace their project of a renewed agitation, for which the rising in Illyria gave a singular opportunity. In doing so he deliberately foregoes the chance of the whole of Europe, and the pressure of the excitement of popular prejudice and passion. The Emperor would then be forced either to wash his hands of the whole movement, and thereby risk a further loss of popularity, or to bring the case on to the police place at the head of all ill, or, to take the matter into his own hands, and risk the possibility of becoming the wielder of Russia's destinies. It is upon the latter eventuality that he has staked and thrown, and it cannot be too earnestly insisted upon that the relations between Russia and Austria and the advent of General Ignatieff to the Foreign Ministry are coincident and inseparable.

THE DIAMOND ROBBERY IN HATTON GARDEN.

The Brussels correspondent of the *Daily News* telegraphed on Monday night:—
The premises of the Hatton-garden diamond robbery have been arrested at the Hotel de Cologne. For some days past four persons, two men and two women, the latter elegantly dressed and covered with jewels, had been lodging at that hotel. Yesterday, being in possession of positive information, the Commissary, M. Vandermarck, appeared at the hotel, and arrested them. A person called inquiring after his friends at the very moment they were being arrested. Seeing a considerable stir in the yard of the hotel, he asked what was the matter, and was told it was a wedding. To see it better he rushed upstairs, and fell into the hands of the gendarmes. He struggled violently, but was secured. His sleeve was torn, and a tattooed mark was seen on his arm, which was taken as a sign of complicity by the London police. A quantity of diamonds and jewels was found in the possession of the parties arrested. They were questioned by the magistrate, and afterwards committed to the prison. The identity of the parties has not yet been established, one of them has been recognised as having been sentenced in England to fifteen years' imprisonment.

Another telegram from Brussels, dated March 6, says:—Among the individuals in the robbery on the charge of complicity in the robbery from the Hatton-garden Post-office, are a man, named Fulton, and his wife, and two men, named Watson and Edward Smith. Jewels worth £20,000 were found in their possession. The latter also accompanied by seizures of jewels, have been made.

On Monday afternoon, Inspectors Littlechild and Wildey, both of whom are attached to the Criminal Investigation Department, were called upon to visit a house in Packington-street, New North-road, for the purpose of arresting a woman passing under the name of Mrs. Watson, and supposed to be the paramour of one Vanderstein, and also to search for and seize the property of the latter. The search was carried on by the two inspectors, who have placed in the house of the woman before mentioned a lodger, representing himself as a commercial traveller, but who is in reality a detective, Sergeant Kofe, of the K Division. He was instructed by the K Division. It was mentioned that this woman and those connected with her have been the object of suspicion on the part of the neighbours. It was only a few days ago that the police, on the ground of a traveller with his handbag, to visit some of the neighbours, for the purpose of persuading them that the house in which he lived was one of the most respectable character. The lady, Mrs. Poland, however, was most anxious to get rid of Mr. Watson and her companion. It was believed that not only would there be found some traces of the Hatton-garden robbery, but also of a great quantity of property obtained from Messrs. Whiteley, of Westbourne-grove, by a false cheque, which was given to a gentleman with manners of the most persuasive and polite character. Captain Beauchamp was in the house, and in addition to planning several large robberies within a few months of his last discharge from prison, succeeded in defrauding the Benevolent Lodge of Freemasons of a very large sum by means of misrepresentations. The police, who were proceeding to the house, which Mrs. Poland, who was acquainted with the fact that she would be arrested and charged with receiving a quantity of property fraudulently obtained from a number of tradesmen. She made no reply to the charge, and was placed in a cab and removed to Scotland-yard. Mrs. Poland, the landlady of the house, states that her sister Mrs. Watson was living in the first floor front room. They have paid the rent regularly, but she had herself remarked the peculiar resemblance of her portrait was in the man Vanderstein, whose portrait was in a neighbouring post-office. She had also noticed that there were frequently delivered at the house large boxes and trunks, and that the man, who was called Watson, was recently removed by friends of a lieutenant in the United States Navy. Mrs. Poland states that some time ago she saw Watson with a large number of jewels, but made no remark about them at the moment. Mrs. Poland, who at the time of the search gave every assistance to the police, expresses herself as being only too glad that she had got rid of her lodgers.

DISAPPEARANCE OF A FARMER.—A farmer named James Johnson, carrying on a small farm in the parish of Llangollock, Vilhon near Llanymonach, left his home about three weeks ago for the purpose of paying his taxes, taking with him £25 for the purpose; but he has not since returned, and his friends fear something serious has befallen him. He was traced to the adjacent hamlet of Talyceol and Llanfyllter. The river Trothy, which runs near, has been dragged, and the police commenced with, but without avail. He has left a wife and five children.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.
The Lord Chancellor took his seat on the woolsack at five o'clock.

THE ATTEMPT ON THE QUEEN'S LIFE.

LORD GRANVILLE, in moving an Address to the Queen expressing the feelings of the House respecting the recent attempt on the life of her Majesty, narrated the particulars of the occurrence so far as they had been made public, while guarding himself against making anything which might hereafter come out in judicial investigation. Having remarked that the motive for the outrage was still unknown, he said it certainly was devoid of all political character. He spoke highly of the spirit displayed on the occasion by the Queen, and said that, after many domestic misfortunes, the Queen manifested that "serene courage" which Lord John Russell bore testimony to when, 32 years ago, a similar attempt was made on the life of her Majesty. He could state, on the authority of the illustrious Prince on the cross benches (the Prince of Wales), who had just returned from seeing the Queen, that her Majesty's nerves were unshaken after what might well have tried the nerves of the strongest man. The noble lord concluded by effectively referring to the sentiments with which the attempt was viewed, not only by their lordships, but by the whole of the civilised world.

LORD SALISBURY, in seconding the address, expressed an eloquent concurrence in the observations of Lord Granville. While agreeing in a general opinion that there was nothing political in the attack, Lord Salisbury reminded their lordships that the heads of two Governments so dissimilar as those of Russia and the United States, who were the victims of an assassination, had been the victims of an assassination, a fact which he pointed out as showing that we live in times when special precautions should be taken to protect the person of the Sovereign.

The motion was adopted *without contradiction*, and a message was sent to the Commons desiring their concurrence in the Address.

On the motion of Lord Salisbury, it was agreed to print the Statutes laid on the table this Session by the Oxford and Cambridge University Commissioners.

On the motion of Lord Salisbury, it was agreed to print the Statutes laid on the table this Session by the Oxford and Cambridge University Commissioners.

At a few minutes past 8 o'clock the address, as concurred in by the Commons, was brought up to their lordships' House. The motion of Lord Salisbury, it was agreed to print the Statutes laid on the table this Session by the Oxford and Cambridge University Commissioners.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.
The Speaker took the chair shortly before four o'clock, when there was an unusually full attendance of members. Mr. Gladstone was in his place at four, and Sir S. Northcote took his seat on the opposition bench a few minutes afterwards. Mr. Bradlaugh occupied a seat below the Bar.

SIR C. DILKE, in answer to a question from Mr. O'Shea, stated that negotiations for a Commercial Treaty were going on with Spain, but he could not at present say more as to their nature. In answer to Sir R. A. Cross, Mr. Shaw-Lefevre said that the Royal Courts of Justice would be out of the builders' hands by Easter, and would be ready for formal opening before the summer session. Mr. Alderman Lawrence having given notice of a question as to the unprotected condition of the Embankment, Sir William Harcourt stated at once, to allay public uneasiness, that he had directed an additional force of police to be stationed on the Embankment.

In answer to questions put by Sir S. Northcote, the Speaker said that the certificate of the return of Mr. Bradlaugh for Northampton had been communicated to the House, and was lying on the table. Mr. Bradlaugh, having given the point his careful consideration, he had come to the conclusion that it no longer applied to Mr. Bradlaugh when he was a member for Northampton, and ceased to be a member for Northampton, and ceased to be a member for Northampton, and ceased to be a member for Northampton.

At this point Mr. Labouchere interposed, and asked whether such a motion could be made before a newly-elected member came to the table to take the oath; and the Speaker replied that the right hon. member was entirely within his rights.

SIR S. NORTHCOTE thereupon proceeded to move that the House, having ascertained that Mr. Bradlaugh had been re-elected for Northampton, affirm the Sessional Resolution of Feb. 7, and directs that he be not permitted to take the oath, and that he be not permitted to take the oath, and that he be not permitted to take the oath.

MR. MAJORIBANKS moved, as an amendment, that the House do resolve, that, in order to permit every member to take the oath of affirmation, he should be allowed to take the oath of affirmation at his option. In moving this, he said that he was not actuated by any sympathy for Mr. Bradlaugh, whose conduct in and out of the House had created disgust and indignation, and whose most recent action in the House he spoke of as "an unworthy manoeuvre."

MR. LABOUCHERE took exception to this, but the Speaker said that he was not prepared to interfere. Mr. Labouchere, in supporting the resolution, said that he was not prepared to interfere. Mr. Labouchere, in supporting the resolution, said that he was not prepared to interfere.

MR. GRADSTONE said that, having entire reliance on this assurance, he would support the amendment, and remarked with regard to the motion, that it was not a personal disqualification, and that it was not a personal disqualification, and that it was not a personal disqualification.

SIR S. NORTHCOTE denied that the motion was aggressive or infringed the right of the electors to elect whom they pleased. As to the amendment, he declined to be any party to a bargain of this kind.

The amendment was supported by Mr. H. Vivian, Mr. Goschen, and Mr. Whitbread. Mr. Gladstone, Mr. E. Stanhope, and Sir R. A. Cross spoke in favour of the resolution; and Mr. WALTER said that though quite willing to vote for amending the law by substituting an affirmation for the oath in all cases, he was not willing to be a party to an undignified bargain against what he regarded as a profanation of the oath.

been negative could be renewed in the same session; but he added that the House would know how to meet any new circumstances without transgressing its own rules. Mr. Callan having asked whether the Speaker would allow a similar motion to be made if this were negatived, the Speaker said he had enough to do to deal with points as they arose without having to decide hypothetical cases.

The House then divided, and Sir S. Northcote's resolution was carried by a majority of 15-237 to 212. The declaration of the numbers was received with loud and prolonged cheering from the Opposition side.

THE ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN.
The Speaker then informed the House that the Lords had agreed to an Address to her Majesty to which they desired the concurrence of the Commons, and

MR. GLADSTONE, in moving that the House do concur in the Address, dwelt with satisfaction on the fact that England and its acts were dissociated from political grievance and discontent and had been committed by men of morbid minds, combined with the narrowest capacity. He spoke, too, of the anxiety felt by her Majesty for those other persons whose lives were endangered by these attempts, and the courage displayed by the Princess Beatrice, and called attention to the marks of sympathy which had come from every part of the globe.

SIR S. NORTHCOTE, in seconding the motion, also laid stress upon this point, remarking that it would have been strange if, in a country where sympathy had not been shown for her Majesty, who had been so ready to sympathize with others.

The motion was then agreed to.

THE LORDS AND THE LAND ACT.
The adjourned debate on the Lords Committee on the Land Act was resumed by Mr. C. RUSSELL, who contended that the Government resolution would not bring about a conflict between the two Houses, but said it merely asked the Commons to endorse the disapproval with which the responsible Government regarded the proposal to inquire prematurely into the operation of the Land Act. Referring to the attempts made on the other side to minimize the inquiry, he said that if it was to be a real inquiry it would be more dignified in the Lords to give way.

ASTOR, in reply, said that the action of the Lords had already been the subject of numerous public meetings which had been held. Asserting that the real object of the inquiry was to review the decisions of the Commissioners, he contended that their action, on the whole, had been more favourable to the tenant than to the landlord, and that the reductions out of the Court, that the County Court Judges had cut down rents more freely, and that much larger reductions had been made voluntarily by English landlords.

TURNER, in reply, said that the Irish members, who were opposing the bill, had asked them how they could justify their assertion that an Act which gave security of tenure and protection against capricious raising of rent had done nothing for the Irish tenant.

LORD C. HAMILTON said that the demand for a special commission of inquiry into the operation of the Land Act was a demand for a special commission of inquiry into the operation of the Land Act, and that it was a demand for a special commission of inquiry into the operation of the Land Act.

MR. LABOUCHERE supported the motion, which Mr. Redmond, contending that the Act had failed, especially in regard to arrears, desired an inquiry.

MR. TOTTERHAM spoke at great length in condemnation of the Sub-Commissioners, illustrating his statements by numerous cases, which he contended showed the Act to be administered in a spirit diametrically opposed to the intentions of Parliament.

On the motion of Mr. BUTT, the motion was further adjourned, and after some dispute it was put down for Tuesday night after the other business.

The other orders were disposed of and the House adjourned at 10 o'clock.

THE OUTRAGE ON THE QUEEN.

The Queen received at Windsor Castle on Monday the address signed by the boys of Eton College, congratulating the Sovereign upon her providential escape from assassination. The ceremonial took place in the presence of the lords and ladies with the exception of the whole of the students, with the exception of the whole of the students, with the exception of the whole of the students.

A few of the Queen, who was accompanied by the Duke of Connaught, Prince Leopold (Duke of Albany), and Princess Beatrice came through the arch under the canopy taken by the Duke of Connaught, and a number of privileged spectators being permitted to view the proceedings from the casement of St. George's Hall—a Royal banquetting-room.

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The Prince and Princess of Wales visited the Queen in the afternoon for the first time since the outrage, their Royal Highnesses and suite travelling by Great Western train to Windsor, where they arrived at a quarter to two o'clock. The Prince and Princess were received upon the platform by Mr. J. Devereux (mayor) and Councillor Norton, his Royal Highness shaking hands with the chief magistrates of Windsor as soon as he recognised him. Their Royal Highnesses drove to the

palace immediately after their arrival, and were greatly cheered by the crowd en route, the Castle guard, a number of men of the 21 Scots Guards, under Lieutenant Finnie, saluting as the carriage passed up the hill to the quadrangle.

The Empress of Austria, travelling incognito as the Countess Hohenheim, and attended by the Countess Festetics and suite, arrived at Windsor by special train about ten minutes after the Prince and Princess of Wales had proceeded to the Castle. The Empress, who was received at the terminus by Princess Beatrice, the Duke of Connaught, and Prince Leopold, attended by Sir A. G. McNeill, Lady Eiddulph, and suite, drove to the Castle in an open carriage, drawn by four grey ponies, and preceded by a couple of Royal outriders in scarlet and gold livery. As in the case of the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Empress and her suite met with an enthusiastic reception from the residents, the Guard at Henry VIII's Gateway saluting the Imperial cortege as it ascended Castle-hill. Princess Christian drove to the Palace in the afternoon from Cumberland Lodge, in the Great Park. The Empress of Austria and the Prince and Princess of Wales lunched with the Queen and Royal Family, her Imperial Majesty quitting Windsor at three o'clock for Dover, and the Prince and Princess of Wales at ten minutes past four for the Great Western Railway station the Prince sent Mr. Superintendent Hayes and thanked him for the able manner in which he carried out the whole proceedings connected with the attempt on the Queen's life.

On Monday afternoon a public meeting, convened by the Mayor of Windsor in response to a very numerous signed requisition, and held in the Town Hall for the purpose of expressing the loyalty and love of the inhabitants to the Queen, and to thank the Queen and her Majesty's family for her escape from the recent attempt on her life. The Mayor (Mr. J. Devereux) presided, and having expressed his own feelings of horror and detestation at the attempt to assassinate her Majesty, the Vicar of Windsor (the Rev. Dr. Goe), proposed, and Mr. F. G. Caley seconded, a resolution expressing abhorrence at the late dastardly attack upon her Majesty and their loyalty and love towards her.

On Sunday the Lord Mayor received the following telegram from the Synod of Rome: "The Municipal Council of Rome, expressing great horror of the attempted crime against her Majesty the Queen, have requested me in yesterday's sitting to convey to her Majesty their heartfelt congratulations on her Majesty's escape. I take the liberty to beg of you to convey to her Majesty the feeling of the inhabitants of Rome." The reply returned by Sir Henry Ponsonby was that the Queen was very much pleased with that evidence of the feeling of the people of Rome for her, and that she heartily thanked them for their kind congratulations. At a special meeting of the Jewish Board of Deputies at the offices of their solicitor, Mr. Lewis Emanuel, 36, Finsbury-circus, Mr. Joseph Sebag, vice-president in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Arthur Cohen, Q.C., M.P., presided, and Mr. J. H. Caley addressed a congratulatory letter to her Majesty the Queen on her escape from the recent attempt on her life was adopted by acclamation.

At a meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects, held on Monday evening, the chairman, Mr. Horace Jones, in opening the proceedings, invited the meeting, at the instance of the Council, to request the secretaries to convey to the patron of that institution (her most gracious Majesty) their sincere feelings of thankfulness that it has pleased Almighty God to preserve her life in the midst of great danger—a life so desperately dear to all her subjects, no less to the members of that institution, and to express their hope that her life may be long preserved to the benefit and the happiness of the public.

On the 16th of February a man answering the description of Lord Frederick Maclean called at the office of Mr. Baker, pawnbroker, of Queen-street, Portsmouth, and purchased a revolver for 5s. 9d. He gave the name of Campbell, and stated that he was about to join the Cape Mounted Rifles. About the same time a man of similar description went to another shop in Portsmouth, that of Mr. Warrel, gunsmith, in Pembroke-road, and purchased some loose cartridges, for which he paid a shilling.

The photograph of the man Maclean, which was sent to Dr. Law Wade, the Surgeon-General, and to Mr. Aspinwall, has been identified as that of an inmate of that asylum for about twelve months. The man was discharged in July last, he then being considered cured. Dr. Law Wade, medical superintendent, has transmitted all the particulars as to the man Maclean to the police authorities at Windsor.

The prisoner, since his incarceration in Reading gaol, has been in the best possible health and spirits. He is guarded over by a special warder, and is being lodged in one of the cells set apart for lunatics. He is well, sleeps soundly, and is inclined to be talkative, of course, the officials discourage. He attended divine service in the chapel at the prison on Sunday. No application has yet been made, either by friends of the prisoner or a solicitor, to see him.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

(FROM THE "DAILY NEWS.")

When the Address to her Majesty was returned to the House of Lords on Monday night, it was the only one of the three peers who were present. By a curious coincidence they were the same three lords who awaited the reception of the Irish Land Bill when it passed its final stage in the House of Commons last session. They were Lord Curzon, Lord Carrington, and Lord Monson.

An examination of the debate in the House of Commons on the Lords' Land Committee shows that in no recent session have so few speeches been made during an equal number of nights. It is still to be seen that the length of the speeches does not find any parallel in the depth of attention with which they are followed. The House on Monday night, as on previous nights, was uniformly empty whilst hon. members were speaking. It appears to be the general opinion that the interest of the situation was not enhanced by the division taken on the threshold of the debate.

The suddenness of the determination taken by the leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons to force on the Breadth debate in Monday night did not afford an opportunity for a regular Liberal whip. It was only at 10 o'clock on Monday morning that notices were sent out calling the attention of Liberal members to the possible Division.

Amongst members whose debate found absent from town was Mr. Burt. The hon. member for Morpeth was in the North of England on business connected with the Miners' National Union, and did not arrive at Westminster till just after the Division. Had he arrived in time Mr. Burt, we are informed, would have voted for Mr. Bradlaugh's amendment.

It is not known what course Mr. Bradlaugh will take in consequence of the vote of last night. There is, however, a general apprehension that he will present himself again and administer to himself the oath with intent to raise the legal question.

We understand that Mr. Bradlaugh's further proceedings will not be met by a vote expelling him from Parliament. Should occasion arise, Sir Stafford Northcote will move a resolution similar to that passed at the end of last session, forbidding Mr. Bradlaugh access to the precincts of the House.

In view of the small majority of Monday night, and of the specific declaration of several members that they voted against the amendment because otherwise it would not have been possible to reintroduce the resolution.

Victoria, on the 1st of October, 1881, announcing the opening of the Melbourne International Exhibition. This message, consisting of 78 words, was sent from Melbourne

THE LANCET

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PARIS, SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1882.

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Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 9-10, 1882.

THE VOTE OF CENSURE ON THE LORDS.

At length the long and weary discussion upon Mr. Gladstone's resolution condemning "Parliamentary inquiry" into the working of the Land Act has been closed. Two divisions were taken at an early hour on Friday morning, in which the predominance of the Ministerial majority was demonstrated. In the first, on "the previous question," the Opposition mustered 219 votes and the Government 303. To these numbers, of course, some pairs must be added on both sides. It appears, therefore, that the Conservative majority in their full strength, while the Ministerials were supported by a considerable number of Irish members. In the second division—upon the resolution as a substantive question—the Opposition were reinforced by some of the Paraclete section, but the change in the balance of forces was unimportant. Mr. Gladstone's resolution, "that Parliamentary inquiry at the present time into the working of the Irish Land Act tends to defeat the operation of that Act and must be injurious to the interest of good government in Ireland," was carried by 303 against 235. A majority of 68 in a full House has thus sustained the Government in censuring the House of Lords. Whatever may be thought of the result, it was full time that some conclusion should be reached. The Prime Minister's position, that inquiry into the Land Act and criticism upon it were to be deprecated at present, may account for the weakness of the few answers on the Government side to the converging attacks of landlords and Land Leaguers.

We are unable to see, at the close of this episode, how the cause which Mr. Gladstone has at heart has been served by his persistence in raising an issue challenging these attacks. The debate has not improved the credit of the Land Act either among those who consider that the landlords have been wronged or among those who demand larger concessions for the tenants. It is impossible to agree with Lord Hartington that the resolution did not fairly bring forward the topics upon which the debate had chiefly turned, whether the condition of Ireland under the Land Act was improving or not, and whether the policy of the Act itself was sound. The language of the Prime Minister's resolution introduced the questions, and the opponents of the resolution were entitled to discuss them before deciding whether the Parliamentary inquiry instituted by Lord Donoughmore's Committee should be censured or not. The House of Commons by discussing those matters practically proved that the debate was not and could not be limited as Lord Hartington imagined. The main issue has been at last decided by the vote of the Ministerial majority, and what is the result? Sir Stafford Northcote, in his reply to Lord Hartington at the close of the debate, reminded the House that the resolution when passed, though having the unpleasant appearance of a censure upon one branch of the Legislature upon the other, could not limit the proceedings of the Lords' Committee further than its members had already voluntarily declared their desire to limit it. Lord Hartington, like Mr. Gladstone, attributes to the formal record of the resolution a moral effect which seems to us exaggerated. It will not after a serious waste of public time and a debate which, it is acknowledged, must, from the Ministerial point of view, have been productive of many evils—effect anything more than might have been accomplished by a simple declaration on the part of the Government that the Land Act would be maintained intact, and that no interference with the independent action of the Commissioners and Sub-Commissioners would be permitted.

Times.

THE HOSTILITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The news of further fighting between the Boers and their native neighbour, Montsua, is the latest, but it is to be feared, by no means the last, chapter of an old tale. Along the western border of the Transvaal are a series of Bechnana States, each under the rule of a Chief. The people are not highly civilised, perhaps, but are certainly not savages. Missionaries dwell among them; traders visit them regularly; they come to work at the Diamond Fields at Kimberley, and earn enough there in a short time to support them in dignified idleness for the rest of their lives. The Chiefs affect many of the externals of civilisation, wear European clothes; live in houses such as the white men use; cultivate friendly relations with the missionaries; and treat the passing traveller with courtesy. Among these one of the most powerful is Montsua, whose Kingdom lies in the angle formed by the northern boundary of the British Province of Griqualand West and the western frontier of the Transvaal. Boundary disputes of the familiar type have embittered his relations with the Boer Government of the Transvaal; but while the province remained under British Administration the friendliest relations were maintained. To ensure the continuance of peace after our withdrawal, the Convention determined the boundary, once for all, in a sense favourable to the claims of the Boers. By that instrument, also, we need hardly explain, control of external relations was reserved to the Suzerain. The Boer Government has no

power to wage war on its neighbours, and boundary disputes are to be decided by our Resident. As to Montsua and the others, they were told that if they behaved well they had nothing to fear. The consequence of our withdrawal, however, was that feuds at once commenced. One Chief came to blows with another, and Boer mercenaries appeared as allies of one or both. This was in November, and, according to Mr. Courtney's showing, the Boer Government—that is to say, the Transvaal, for as yet no regular Government had been formed—enjoyed neutrality on its subjects. Border Boers, however, have never paid much respect to the wishes of the politicians at Pretoria, and accordingly, we find that towards the close of January a force of three hundred Boers with three guns were fighting against Montsua. Even then fortune was not altogether favourable to the whites, and now from the latest news it appears that, a month after this first deliberate invasion, the Boers have sustained a disastrous reverse. The story no longer runs that the natives with Boer allies attacked Montsua. It is that the Boers are the principals in the war, though they have a native contingent. With three guns they attacked Montsua's headquarters, but Montsua making a sally, they were completely repulsed, losing their cattle. Four days after—on the 25th of February—they advanced again, fell into an ambush, and again had to retreat, losing thirty-eight men and their commander. Whether this war of private enterprise has been undertaken with or without the connivance of the Pretorian authorities, is a branch of the Convention, and the worst prophecies regarding the settlement appear to be already in course of fulfilment. The Transvaal Government has proved too weak to restrain its subjects, and these have not been able somehow to stand against the natives. It may be that these border mercenaries are of a different stamp from that of the men who climbed Majuba Hill, or it may be that native tactics are more formidable than the Boer attack. The result is the same, whichever explanation be the true one.

The disorder and demoralisation will, in all probability, spread from the border to the interior, and all the reasons which justified annexation will revive. The first news of these fresh troubles caused a panic at the Diamond Fields. Even before the tidings of this disastrous engagement, there was a report that the Boers were organising a commando to compel the natives to pay taxes. The two movements may have some connection. One thing, however, is clear—that as yet the men to whom we handed over the Transvaal have failed to satisfy either of the tests of efficient administration. They have not succeeded in making the natives within their border pay taxes, and they have not prevented their own subjects from attacking the natives beyond the border.—Standard.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH TREATY.

The Bordeaux Chamber of Commerce has addressed a letter to the French Minister of Commerce, expressing regret at the rupture of commercial negotiations with England, and urging upon him to resume the negotiations, altering the mode of levying the duties, so that the new tariff shall be more liberal than the old. The Chamber is of opinion that the rupture of the negotiations will be very injurious to French trade; that it will keep merchants and bankers in a state of suspense, and that French manufactures will suffer damage. It frankly admits, too, that England was justified in not agreeing to a retrograde treaty; and while still adhering to its preference for specific, as compared with *ad valorem* duties, it would be so fixed that they would be lower than the *ad valorem* duties which they supersede; whereas the specific duties offered to England were higher. We do not believe that this letter will have much effect, for Mr. Fournier has evidently persuaded himself that he is serving the interests of France in refusing to England terms as liberal as those of the expiring treaty. But the Chamber of Commerce of Bordeaux speaks for the whole wine interest of France, and the wine interest of France is an extremely powerful one. As yet the change has not come into effect, and therefore the consequences are not felt. But when French wine-growers begin to feel the consequences of the rupture of negotiations we have no doubt that all the other representatives of the wine interest throughout France will unite their voices to that of the Chamber of Commerce of Bordeaux. It will be difficult for any French Government to resist the pressure they will be able to bring to bear upon it. Nor will it be the wine interest alone that will suffer. We have no doubt that the Chamber of Commerce of Bordeaux is right in foreseeing that French trade generally will be injured; and when this comes to be recognised, there is every prospect that French opinion will veer round, and that France will be as anxious to conclude a liberal treaty with us as she is now unwilling to do so.—Daily News.

THE DEFEAT OF THE BOERS.

The Durban correspondent of the Times telegraphed on Thursday:—More details of the fighting between the Boers and the natives west of the Transvaal have arrived via Kimberley. Two hundred and fifty Boers, with native allies, were twice repulsed by Montsua and Mankoroane. There was considerable loss on both sides. The Boers probably led to their defeat, the loss of the large Boer commando to the army. In the Transvaal Government seriously takes in hand the subjugation of these old allies of the British Government, their tribal extinction may be expected, unless their call for European volunteers is very largely answered. The news from Zululand is unsatisfactory, and will remain so until the uncertainty as to Cetewayo's return is set at rest.

THE INDIAN BUDGET.

Major Baring's Indian Budget is a very satisfactory one, proving for the fifth time that India is always financially flourishing when not exposed to abnormal troubles such as war and famine. His figures for three years in succession show continuous improvement:—

For 1880-1 the revenue amounted to £72,500,000, and the expenditure to £76,000,000, a deficit of £3,500,000, which, however, is less by £2,175,000 than had been reckoned upon. For 1881-2 the estimate was—revenue, £72,913,000; expenditure, £71,336,000, showing a surplus of £1,577,000. For 1882-3 important changes affecting the revenue are announced, which greatly improve the position on that side of the account. The import duties on cotton goods and on most other articles are abolished, leaving wine, beer, spirits, arms, salt, and opium still subject to the tariff. By this change a loss of £1,108,000 occurs. The salt tax is reduced by from 20 to 30 per cent., causing a loss of £1,233,000. On the other hand, the receipts from opium are raised from £6,500,000 for the year now expiring, to

£7,250,000. Allowing for these important changes, the estimate for 1882-3 brings out a surplus of £285,000, the revenue being placed at £66,155,000, and the expenditure at £65,870,000. No income tax is proposed, or any change in the licence tax, the Government reserving to itself full liberty of action as regards this latter impost, either to recast, prolong, or abolish it. There are two points here referred to, to which we have already alluded. The first is the opium tax, to be maintained, and taken at a higher estimate, will only add to the zeal of the well-meaning fanatics who look upon the tax from that source as tainted with every possible vice, and the coming discussion in the House of Commons will cover the special concession in that account. It will rest with the opponents of the monopoly to show from what source 7½ millions sterling could be derived without creating tenfold greater evils and stimulating a dangerous degree of discontent. The repeal of the import duties is skillfully arranged, and the special concession to Manchester wants so much and has long clamoured for so lustily, and spinners, weavers, printers, and bleachers will alike rejoice over a result which will hardly render the noble Member for North-East Lancashire less popular with his constituents. Probably, any change short of absolute remission would have been awkward. Nevertheless, what will delight Lancashire may in exactly the same degree displease the Indian manufacturers, who will maintain that their interests are sacrificed to those of their more fortunate British brethren, and the fact that the consumer must benefit will not allay this discontent in the least. One other detail remains to be mentioned. Major Baring's statement puts the total cost of the Afghan War at £21,611,000, of which £17,551,000 was for military operations, and £4,060,000 for frontier railways. This is a large sum, no doubt, and it may be called unproductive expenditure. But who is to blame for that? Had not the "scuttling out" policy been adopted, and the fruits of so much labour, labour, and treasure, would have returned ample interest in the additional strength, security, and prestige for our great Eastern Empire, again not to be measured in rupees or sterling, and the want of which may yet imperil the equilibrium of more than one Indian Budget.—Daily Telegraph.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

WINDSOR CASTLE, THURSDAY.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by Lady Waterpark. The Duchess of Connaught drove out, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, and the Duke and Duchess of Kent. The Earl of Kintore, K.P. (Lord Chamberlain), and the Countess of Kintore, and the Right Hon. W. E. and Mrs. Gladstone arrived at the Castle yesterday. Her Majesty's dinner party included Princess Beatrice and the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, the Duke and Duchess of Kent, Lady Waterpark, the Right Hon. W. E. and Mrs. Gladstone, the Hon. Horatia Stophord, Lord Sudeley, Lieut.-General the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ponsonby, K.C.B., and Captain Walker Campbell. The Queen arrived at the Castle yesterday afternoon, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, the Duke and Duchess of Kent, Lady Waterpark, the Right Hon. W. E. and Mrs. Gladstone, the Hon. Horatia Stophord, Lord Sudeley, Lieut.-General the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ponsonby, K.C.B., and Captain Walker Campbell. 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THE NORTH BORNEO CHARTER.

If the North Borneo Charter be analyzed, it will be seen that the Crown imposes conditions and reservations upon the unlimited grants which the company derives from their bargain with the native rulers. Thus the company are bound to remain British in character and domicile. They cannot transfer the benefit of their grants without the permission of the English Government. The company are bound to discourage and, as far as practicable, abolish by degrees all systems of domestic slavery. The appointment of the company's principal representative in the island is to be subject to the approval of the Crown. In short, as was explained in the House of Lords on Monday, the charter does not create new rights; it restricts those which exist. It thus differs essentially from charters to which it has been compared, such as those granted to the East India Company, the Hudson's Bay Company, and the New Zealand Company. The peculiarity of those famous grants was that the Crown professed to bestow sovereign rights upon bodies corporate. The North Borneo Charter gives practically nothing, and it takes away not a little. What cannot fail also to have influenced the Government in the course which they took is the fact, to which our naval officers have borne testimony, that the administration of the company appears to be liked by the natives, and that the traces of amendment are already to be seen in decrease of piracy, increase of trade, and the growth of a feeling of security. Of course, the real character of the apprehensions felt with regard to the charter must be frankly faced. It is feared that the company may involve us in troubles with foreign Powers. This is a weighty consideration. But caution as to this may be carried too far. What would be the present area of our empire, where would be our colonies, if we had never countenanced Englishmen going to a foreign land in which their operations might give offence to any State? The Spanish Government may oppose the concession granted to the company; but they do so in virtue of claims against which this country has always protested. Lord Salisbury and Lord Granville were both obliged to enter into negotiation with the Dutch Government on the subject. On learning that the charter had been granted, that Government asked for precise explanations. But the communications which have passed seem to be satisfactory; and, indeed, it scarcely lies in the mouth of Holland to protest against the aggrandisement of any Power in the neighbourhood of Borneo. The only other argument against seeing English influence extend to that island—the richest in the world, Australia excepted—rich in mines of gold, silver, and coal, clothed with inexhaustible forests, pierced by navigable rivers, and possessing large plains, which feed herds of cattle, is the fear that the Crown may be compelled to intervene if the chartered company should get into trouble with the natives. This is a reasonable apprehension. The danger is one to be guarded against, and it is to be hoped that the company will clearly understand that our cruisers cannot be at their service. Perhaps, however, this danger would require careful attention, whether the company were or were not incorporated. The precedents of the Abyssinian war and many others show that intervention can be too readily commanded by our subjects when in distress, though they possess no corporate existence.—*Times*.

THE SMOULDERING FIRES IN EGYPT.

The sudden and somewhat unexpected acceptance of the resignation of M. de Bignon, the French Controller-General, which is announced this morning, will naturally increase the alarm with which the crisis in Egypt is regarded in this country. It may not be the beginning of the end, but it undoubtedly denotes a change which can hardly be a change for the better. The picture presented to the world by the situation in Egypt, according to the most trustworthy accounts, is sombre in the extreme. The country is ostensibly at peace, but it trembles on the verge of anarchy. Already the paralysis of the Khedive's authority which was begun when the Colonels first compelled him to do their bidding is spreading to all branches of the Administration of Egypt. Armed bands are said to be overrunning the country—ever a sure symptom of an impending catastrophe—and the fellahs, hurried by these plunderers and unprotected by the authorities, are arming in self-defence. The mudirs of two of the most important provinces have resigned in sheer despair of maintaining order. Even in the cities there is an effervescence of lawlessness and unrest, and no one can say how soon the consequences may make themselves felt in an outbreak. Apart altogether from the appearance of armed bands of lawless men in various parts of the country, there have been occasional outbreaks of violence here and there which have done much to justify the uneasy feeling of insecurity that exists in the minds of the European population. Nor is it only the perceptible increase of temperature in the temper of the Moslem mob that deserves noting as an evil result of the supremacy of the "Nationalists." The colonies of Greeks and Italians contain many violent and unscrupulous members, who, we may rely upon it, are eagerly calculating upon the possibility of profiting by the apparently inevitable collision between the "Nationalists" and the Control. Egypt, in short, is full of explosive elements, and Ourlahi is only too likely to strike out a spark which may be followed by a serious catastrophe. So far as public order is concerned, the Nationalist movement has been a movement in the direction of anarchy. It is not much better in relation to domestic reforms. What has become of the reforms chalked out in the Commission of Inquiry three years ago? The most pressing of all, the establishment of a decent system of judicial administration, has been hung up *sine die*. The only "reform" on which the "National" party has set its heart is the dismissal of Europeans from public offices in order that Egyptians may take their places. To Egyptians may take their places is sacrificed; and if it is attained the chief security for honest and enlightened administration

tion will be destroyed. Domestic reform can, however, be postponed. It is not an international question, and its postponement only injures the population, which the "National" party professes to represent. But a question which cannot be postponed is the question of finance; and in dealing with this the Nationalists have already come dangerously near provoking the intervention of Europe. The first object of every enlightened Chancellor of the Exchequer is to keep down military expenditure. The first step of the Nationalists has been to swell the military estimates by a sum which is variously estimated from £370,000 to £670,000, but which will probably not fall much short of a million. They have also voted away the whole reserve fund for unforeseen expenses in 1882. As a result, it is probable that this year Egyptian finance will show a deficit. Now, there is only one thing worse than a deficit in Egypt, and that is anarchy. The "National" party has brought her face to face with this. It may be that Ourlahi, for whose elevation to supreme power the army is already clamouring, may, even at the eleventh hour, arrest the movement which at present seems to be leading direct to a catastrophe. The chances, however, are decidedly the other way. Disorder is not likely to abate because it has got beyond control, and of spending money upon the army there is no end. If the European officials are dismissed, the deterioration of the Administration which has already begun will go on apace until the general collapse which even now does not seem very far off. We are therefore confronted with the alarming possibility that we may have to intervene in Egypt to restore order at any moment, and the scarcely less alarming certainty that unless the "National" party reverse their course intervention will be inevitable at no distant date. The Powers are pledged up to the eyes to prevent anarchy, and how far is anarchy off to-day? The Controllers represent the guarantee for the due payment of the dividends held by European bondholders; but how long can they guarantee payments from an Exchequer which they do not control? The situation is serious to the last degree, and unless matters take an unexpected turn for the better, it is not likely to pass without seeing an armed intervention. This is all that we can make of the reports that are now coming to England by every mail; and the departure of M. de Bignon, whose loyal co-operation with Sir Auckland Colvin was the chief security for the smooth working of the Control, is by no means calculated to allay the apprehensions which they excite.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

THE NEW CARDINALS.

The Rome correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Monday night:—
The Consistory, which has been deferred more than once, has been definitely fixed for the middle of April. Seven new Cardinals will be created—1. Monsignor MacCabe, Archbishop of Dublin, an appointment which will, as is believed at the Vatican, and it will be at least proportionally disagreeable to all classes, except, of course, the Clerical in Italy; 2. Monsignor May, Bishop of Saville; 3. Monsignor Lavigne, Archbishop of Algiers—this nomination was strongly insisted on by the French Government, and it will be at least proportionally disagreeable to all classes, except, of course, the Clerical in Italy; 4. Monsignor Agostini, Patriarch of Venice; 5. Monsignor Ricci, his Holiness's Major Dome;—this appointment has been mainly motivated by the desire of opening the way for certain important changes which are contemplated in the offices of the Apostolic Court; 6. Monsignor Angelo Jacobini, Assessor of the Holy Office; 7. Monsignor Lasagni, Secretary of the Sacred Congregation. I told you some little time since that it was the wish of the Holy Father to nominate the new Bishops to the See vacant in Germany in consequence of the late Kulturkampf in Consistory, a solemn mode of nomination not practised by the Holy See save in the case of those countries which send accredited representatives to the Apostolic Court. And I mentioned that one of the reasons for the postponement of the Consistory was the wish of the Holy Father to wait for the vote of the Prussian Parliament authorising the appointment of a Resident in Rome in order that the Bishops might be named with full ceremonial. But the funds for the Representative at the Apostolic Court have been voted, and yet no German Bishops will be named in the next Consistory. The reason is that suddenly, and most unexpectedly, as is declared by the Vatican, a new difficulty, and one not likely to be readily got over, has arisen. This is the insistence of the German Government that the selection of the Bishops should remain with them. This demand, utterly unexpected, as is declared, has produced some serious difficulties. The German Government, where it had been supposed that the names of the Bishops to be appointed were already agreed upon by both parties.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

A rumour is current in Dublin that Mr. Parnell has declared his intention of not stirring from Kilmuckin to Armagh, or any other goal, unless compelled by force. Actions have been commenced in the Dublin Exchequer Division on behalf of the owners of the *United Ireland* to test the legality of the seizure of that paper. The writ of summons has been issued by the Irish National News-Paper Publishing Company (Limited) against Mr. Forster, Chief Secretary for Ireland; Captain George Talbot, Chief Commissioner of Police; and Colonel Connolly, V.O., Assistant Commissioner, and Superintendent John Mallen, Inspector Thomas Kavanagh, Inspector James Smith, and Detective Officers Samuel Bowers and James Sheridan. The damages are laid at £30,000. The complaint is that the defendants "broke and entered" the plaintiff's house and seized copies of the newspaper. An appearance has been entered on the part of the defendants. Intelligence reached Limerick that on a property in the county notices purporting to be signed by "Captain Moonlight" were extensively posted up on Monday night warning the tenants not to pay their rent on pain of receiving a visit from that personage with the usual results. The notices were torn down by the police. Cornelius O'Callaghan, farmer, from Greva, county Clare, was arrested on Monday, charged with the offence of lodging in the County Limerick Gaol. O'Callaghan is charged with inciting to non-payment of rent. Four men, armed with pistols, entered the house of Edward Kennedy, in the village of Crashen, situated midway between Ennis and Gort, co. Clare, on Sunday night. They dragged him out of bed on to the road, then

marched him in a half nude state to the shell of an old house close by, where they made him go on his knees. They then fired three shots over his head and one at his legs, which were slightly scorched by powder. Kennedy lay on his back on the grassy Fitzgerald estate. He took a farm from which an old lady, the widow of an officer, and her daughter and niece, had been evicted two years ago. More evictions are pending on the same estate in the neighbourhood, and to the taking of the farm Kennedy attributes the outrage. In the evening, after Lenten devotions, a procession, composed of immense numbers, paraded the village roads, headed by the Crusheen band, cheering for the suspension of the rack-renters and the land grabbers. The Spondipary Magistrate and the police were present, but did not interfere. A party of men, disguised and armed, on Sunday night visited the house of a widow resident in the village of Crashen. After firing several shots, the party compelled the widow to swear that she would give up possession of a portion of a Boycotted farm which she had recently rented, and from which a tenant had previously been evicted, threatening her with death if she failed to keep her promise. They then broke some furniture, with a portion of which they beat the woman, injuring her very seriously. No arrests have been made.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

(FROM THE "DAILY NEWS.")
We understand that Mr. Gladstone has intended through one of his colleagues to present a memorial to the House of Commons in favour of a two-thirds majority as the condition of closing a debate that the Government do not see their way to any modification of the first of the proposed new laws. It is, however, doubtful whether the memorial is not likely to be presented to the Prime Minister.

It is stated that an effort will be made to resuscitate the Fourth Party, and that Lord Folkestone and Earl Percy have been reconsidering the possibility of its revival, which would be the medium for inter-communication with the Land League Party.
A meeting of the Irish party was held on Monday under the presidency of Mr. Justin McCarthy, M.P. The special subject under consideration was the habitual absence of a number of Irish members from the House of Commons. In order to draw the attention of the Irish constituencies to this matter the secretary was directed to furnish the Dublin newspapers with a weekly list of members who attended Parliament. After some discussion, Mr. McCarthy proposed that a letter be written to the Rev. Isaac Nelson, M.P. for Mayo, expressing regret that he had not been seen in his place since the opening of Parliament, and wishing to know if they might count on his presence during the remainder of the Session.

We understand that Lord Randolph Churchill proposes to leave London for the South of France, and hopes to resume his Parliamentary duties after Easter.
A meeting of members of the House of Commons was held on Monday afternoon to consider what further steps should be taken in connection with the threatened renewal of hostilities between the Cape Government and the Transvaal. Mr. Dilwyn was requested to ask the Under-Secretary for the Colonies whether, having regard to the fact that the period fixed for the acceptance by the Basutos of the ultimatum sent to them by the Cape Government was "expiring" on Monday, the Cape Government are prepared to recommend that an extension of time be given to the Basutos within which they may comply with the demands made upon them. Mr. Dilwyn subsequently gave notice of this question.

Lord Salisbury, in calling attention to the Royal Charter granted on the 8th of November, 1881, to the North British Borneo Company, gave a retrospective sketch of the history of Borneo from 1520, when it was placed by the Dutch and Portuguese. He pointed out that the Sultan of Sulu, having made a grant of a very large region of territory in that quarter to Mr. Alfred Dent, a merchant, that gentleman formed a company which through him became the rulers of that territory with 500 miles of seaboard. The Government had been for some time under a charter, which not only confirmed it in the position it had previously obtained, but conferred upon it authority over land in the British colony of Sarawak. He asked the Foreign Secretary to give some explanation of such a departure from Imperial policy.

Lord GRANVILLE explained that there had long been rival claims by Holland, Spain, Portugal, and this country in respect of Borneo. He believed that Lord Salisbury, when he made the grant of the Charter, was not unfavourable to the Charter, and the present Government believing that where political and commercial advantages could be obtained for England without a financial or military burden being thrown on this country, they were quite ready to give effect to the granting of the Charter, which, while giving the company no legal advantages which it might not have obtained by incorporation under the Companies Act, reserved considerable power for the Crown. There seemed no reason to apprehend that the Charter would involve us in any complications with foreign Powers.

Lord CARNARVON, at some length, explained his reasons for being of opinion that the more the matter was looked into the more the advantages of the Charter to this country would be appreciated.
Lord ELMSTON pointed out that under the management of the company there had been very great improvements, morally and commercially, effected in North Borneo. The circumstances of each case were always brought to the knowledge of the Commissioners, and notes of the proceedings before them were taken by official shorthand writers, so that the Supreme Court of Appeal was sure to be fully informed in every case which came before it.
Their lordships adjourned at 7 o'clock.

On Saturday the remains of the Hon. Charles Howard were interred in the New Cemetery at Farnham Forest, Tunbridge-wells, near the residence he had long occupied in the neighbourhood. The coffin was covered with flowers in wreaths, and crosses, forwarded amongst others by Lady Charlotte Howard, the Dowager Lady Northbrook, the Hon. Mrs. William Howard, Lady Baring, and other members of the family. The service was read by the Rev. G. W. Dodd in the unavoidable absence of the Rev. Canon Hoare, and around the grave were collected many friends of the deceased gentleman.

A FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT—Amongst other matters just made to the Admiralty, one of the most important is the appointment of a Foreign Intelligence Department, under the superintendence of Captain Rice, who for some time was an assistant to the Director of Ordnance at White-

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

The Lord Chancellor took his seat on the woolsack shortly after five o'clock.

ROYAL ASSENT.

The Royal Assent was given by Commission to the Consolidated Fund (No. 1) Bill, and the Post Cards (Reply) Bill. The Royal Commissioners to East, Granville, Earl Sydney, and the Earl of Kenmore.

TRANSVAAL.—THE TRANSVAAL BOERS AND THE NATIVES.

The Earl of CARNARVON said that in the papers on Basutoland there was a statement by Sir Hercules Robinson that he would give his own views in a second paper; but those views were not to be found in the papers. The Earl of KIMBERLEY replied that the telegram in question (dated Dec. 30) contained no such statement. Sir Hercules Robinson's views were given in a second paper; but those views were not to be found in the papers. The Earl of KIMBERLEY replied that the telegram in question (dated Dec. 30) contained no such statement. Sir Hercules Robinson's views were given in a second paper; but those views were not to be found in the papers.

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THE TRIAL OF DR. LAMSON.

The trial of George Henry Lamson for the murder of Percy Malcolm John was resumed on Tuesday morning at the Criminal Criminal Court, before Mr. Justice Hawkins. At the commencement of the proceedings the court was very full, and the attendance of ladies was larger than usual. Mr. Lamson, who was wearing a white waistcoat and a dark suit, was seated in the dock. The Solicitor-General rose to reply. He said, first of all, that the boy died from natural causes. The whole of the medical evidence went to prove that whatever was the cause of death it was not a natural cause. The witnesses had been called to show that the death had been caused by any one of the natural causes; and it was impossible to doubt that poison, and nothing but poison, was the cause of death. What, then, was the cause of that poison? The refusal of the Home Office to allow the presence of an analyst on behalf of the prisoner had been complained of by his learned friend, but the question was whether this was not the whole of a sound and good practice. These two gentlemen were not appointed for the prosecution; they were nominated by the Home Office as men of science calmly to discover the cause of death, and if another person had been present day after day during such a critical process, asking questions and making suggestions, would it not have tended rather to disturb the analysts and render them likely to make mistakes? Could they doubt the evidence of Dr. Stevenson as to the tests which he had made, particularly as to the taste? If it was not acconite, why then the taste was not acconite, but what was it? Here again, he thought the evidence was conclusive. Further, Dr. Stevenson was not content to rely upon the test of taste, but he made experiments with animals, the nature of which proved that the effects were precisely the same as that of the acconite which was tried by the witness Dr. Stevenson. Here, then, they had two points established—no way of accounting for death by natural causes, and this deadly poison found in the body. Suppose, then, that the establishment, how was that acconite administered? Counsel for the defence had suggested that the boy had taken it himself, but when was it likely to have been taken? Throughout the day the jury had been in excellent spirits, had not complained of the improvement in the recruiting, not merely as to the numbers, but in the physique and intelligence of the men, and, reviewing the operation of the retirement scheme, he said that the strength of the Reserve was 35,131, which would make up 71 battalions to the war strength of 1,000, without calling on the Militia Reserve. With regard to the Cavalry, he postponed any reorganisation of this arm until next year, but the Artillery he dealt with, and he will be at home to fixed Artillery depots, chiefly at or near the coast. The field and garrison batteries will be divided into groups; the Militia Artillery will become Royal, and will be the junior brigade of the Artillery in the district. Mr. Childers next mentioned various particulars illustrating the improvement in the recruiting, not merely as to the numbers, but in the physique and intelligence of the men, and, reviewing the operation of the retirement scheme, he said that the strength of the Reserve was 35,131, which would make up 71 battalions to the war strength of 1,000, without calling on the Militia Reserve. With regard to the Cavalry, he postponed any reorganisation of this arm until next year, but the Artillery he dealt with, and he will be at home to fixed Artillery depots, chiefly at or near the coast. 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NICE.—15, QUAI MASSÉNA.

Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 14—15, 1882.

PARLIAMENTARY MANNERS.

Parliamentary manners seem rather to justify the too often quoted criticism of the seaman on the natives of a South Sea island. Very recently a well meaning person, in a twaddling book, advised the young to study the courtesy of Parliamentary manners. If the young really model themselves on Mr. Healy, Mr. Biggar, Lord Eustace Cecil, and Lord Percy, they will soon find themselves regarded with dismay in decent society. In the long wrangles of Monday night members seem to have lost their tempers, and to have forgotten their manners rather more than usual. We do not know that any one, as has happened now and then in the last three years, used words which the Captain in *Pinafore* employed, "never, or hardly ever." No one seems to have "sworn" in a sense not required of Mr. Bradlaugh. But the Speaker had to rebuke language which would have been deemed unseemly in a bargees' debating society. If debating societies are frequented by bargees, Mr. Sexton described treatment to which he had been subjected in prison, and we cannot easily express our sense of its inhumanity, even if Mr. Sexton had been imprisoned on a criminal charge. Turnkeys are officials, all officials are pestilential fellows in a general way, and turnkeys seem to be apt to abuse their opportunities. Accepting Mr. Sexton's evidence, this is the conclusion which we should draw. But Mr. Biggar drew quite another conclusion. He accused Mr. Forster of "taking the most of the day in administering the Coercion Act." As the Coercion Act is represented as diabolically cruel in its administration, we must presume that Mr. Biggar thinks Mr. Forster diabolically cruel. Mr. Forster is a fiend in human shape, a kind of Quilp, in fact, who takes pleasure in preventing the suspects from playing at marbles, and in forbidding Mr. Parnell to knock down at law. Some ladies had sent chess and marbles (including, we trust, "commemories" and "ally tors") to Kilmainham, and the prisoners were not allowed to use these toys. They were fed on "corrodious beef," which Mr. Healy says, has all the qualities of the beef supplied by Mr. Squeers to his pupils, except tenderness. All this is a very revolting account of Kilmainham, and, if the account be strictly accurate, we trust that changes may be introduced into the management of that prison. But Mr. Biggar went too far when he said that the administration of the Coercion Act was a source of intense delight and sparkling joy to Mr. Forster. Mr. Biggar's sayings fall into the category of the infinitely little. They are of no importance in themselves, but if almost any one else behaved like Mr. Biggar the dignity of the House might suffer seriously. Mr. Biggar was by no means the only offender. Mr. Healy expressed doubts as to whether Mr. Forster had "the heart of a man," a sort of scepticism which cannot surprise Mr. Forster, and by this time has probably ceased to irritate him. We never hear of Mr. Healy or his friends expressing any indignation when the midnight murderers in Ireland shoot men and women in the legs, and torture beasts and fire at babies. Doubtless Captain Moonlight and his fellows have the hearts of men; at all events Mr. Healy does not seem to have physiological doubts on the subject. It is at least as bad to drive a woman out of bed and fire shots into her legs as to prevent Mr. Parnell from playing at marbles. In the later hours of the debate Lord Eustace Cecil accused Mr. Gladstone of saying the thing that was not by "pretending a public necessity when he was really asserting his own imperious will." Lord Percy was later understood to express the same sort of view of the Prime Minister's veracity. However, it seems that these noblemen meant something else, and both withdrew their remarks with a promptitude equal to that which moves Mr. Biggar's withdrawals. Perceiving that the amenities are not worse than the amenities are accustomed to in days when Burke criticised Lord North's legs, which he declared to be unbearably thick. In the old Irish Parliament, when Grattan commented on his opponents' noses, and when a member was alluded to as the "white-livered coward shivering on the floor," Mr. Biggar would have seemed, perhaps, the pink of courtesy. It is not certain that our Parliamentary manners are much worse than they were in the days of duelling. Then a man could not easily "withdraw" his words, as Mr. Biggar does so readily now, because he would have been suspected of an aversion to "going out" in the militant, not in the social, sense of the term. By this time we might have had to lament the loss of Mr. Biggar if pistols were still the means of settling questions of etiquette. But perhaps not even Fighting Fitzgerald would have gone out with Mr. Biggar. —Daily News.

THE LAMSON POISONING CASE.

George Henry Lamson was convicted and sentenced to death on Tuesday. The decision of the jury is all that could have been anticipated by all who followed the evidence with care, and who observed how completely this evidence was left uncontradicted by the defence. It would be difficult to find an example in which

proof of criminality was more complete, supposing it to be left practically unassailed in any important particular; and as soon as it became manifest that the statements made by the chemists employed by the Home Office would not be disputed, there could scarcely be a doubt of the ultimate decision. The crime had, indeed, been so clumsily planned as almost to insure the detection of the perpetrator; and it might have been plausibly contended that no one possessed of medical knowledge, even to a very moderate extent, would have been likely to administer so powerful a poison as acconitine in a manner which must necessarily connect it with his presence. The career of the prisoner, however, had been of such a kind as to add to the many examples which show that a tendency to criminality is often associated with shortsightedness and folly. Circumstances in his history, which were not referred to by the prosecution, although sufficiently well known, were calculated to show an inconsistency in minor offences of a kind strictly analogous to that which was displayed in the crime by which his life has been forfeited. On going to Bournemouth to practise Lamson set forth that he was a Doctor of Medicine in the London University, a licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians of London, and the holder of a Cambridge degree in science, whereas his only claim to be a medical practitioner at all was derived from a licence granted in 1877 by two Edinburgh corporations. Not content with claiming the above-named distinctions in conversation, he attempted to register them, with the natural result that the officials of the Medical Registration Office discovered the fraud, and were probably the channels through which it became known at Bournemouth, where, before the death of Percy John, the prisoner was expelled from the local medical society for the offence of assuming titles to which he had no claim. The absence of scrupulousness exhibited in this business would in a neighbouring country have been recorded in the *Acts of Accusation*, and laid before the jury in support of the belief that the person who would commit such an offence would be likely to commit graver offences also; and the absence of skill, the false pretence being one which could not escape detection, assists to explain the clumsiness of the act of poisoning of which he has now been found guilty. The amount of reliance proper to be placed upon the physiological and chemical evidence that the poison administered was acconitine is a question which requires more space than we can now devote to its consideration; but it may be safely assumed, from the absence of contradiction, that the statements of Drs. Stevenson and Dupré were unassailable. Two chemists of high eminence were in attendance at the trial, who had themselves experimented upon the questions at issue, the trial having been allowed for this express purpose, and they listened attentively to the evidence for the prosecution. If they could have suggested a flaw in the analytical processes described, or if they could in any way have diminished the effect of the chemical evidence, they would certainly have been called; and the fact that they were not called justifies the belief that this evidence was incontrovertible. Assuming, then, that the poison administered was acconitine, there is the clearest proof that acconitine was in the possession of the prisoner; and there has been no suggestion that it was in the possession of any other person, by or from whom it could have been conveyed to the deceased. Acconitine is not a common substance which people buy and sell without notice or recollection. It is one of the most deadly of known poisons, it is expensive, and it would not be supplied by a careful druggist to any customer of whose medical character he did not feel secure. If acconitine had been procured by the deceased himself, or by any member of Mr. Bedbrook's household, there would have been no difficulty in proving the purchase; for it is one of the advantages of the publicity of English jurisprudence that it always brings to light facts of such a nature. There is, therefore, no escape from the conclusion that the deceased was poisoned by acconitine, and that the acconitine was administered to him by the prisoner; and the only doubt which could remain is whether the administration was designed or accidental. In favour of the former belief there is the motive, pitifully small as it seems, of release from pecuniary embarrassment; and against the latter there is the fact of the deadly potency of the agent, which would render it second nature for any medically educated person to dispose of it in such a manner that no accident could possibly arise. The prisoner would know that the quantity of acconitine which he purchased from Allen and Rogers was enough to destroy the lives of forty people; and to use such a powerful poison carelessly, so that it might be introduced into a capsule by accident, would be scarcely less criminal than its deliberate administration. The case is a valuable illustration of what cannot be too widely known and remembered—namely, that the production of death by poison is one of the most perfidious forms of murder; and that poisoners, if they do for a time escape, owe their immunity chiefly to want of observation on the part of those by whom their victims are attended. Even when the poison is administered by a person whose name is known beyond the limits of the medical profession, the crime leaves traces distinctly legible to those who will be at the trouble of looking for them; and the conviction of Lamson, by bringing this truth into prominence, may contribute to the safety of many lives which his acquittal would have placed in peril. —Times.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SOUTH-WARK.—It is stated to have been definitely arranged by the English Roman Catholic authorities, with the sanction of the Holy See, that the present diocese of Southwark, which is of such great extent as to be unwieldy for the purposes of administration, shall be so divided as to form three dioceses instead of one. The new sees are to be those of Arundel and Portsmouth, the former embracing a large portion of the south-eastern county, and being endowed, it is expected, by the Duke of Norfolk, and the latter taking in the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands, which at present are parts of the diocese of Southwark. The metropolitan see would include, it is stated, the whole of South London, the county of Surrey, and parts of Kent and Hampshire. According to this arrangement, two newly-created prelates—the Bishops of Arundel and of Portsmouth—would be added to the Roman Catholic hierarchy of England and Wales, making the number fifteen instead of thirteen, as at present constituted.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The LORD CHANCELLOR took his seat on the woolsack at five o'clock. The Earl of REDBELL, in presenting a petition in favour of his Parliamentary Declaration Bill, said he had fixed the second reading of it for Thursday week. He hoped that noble lords would come to the consideration of the bill without prejudice, and would not let it at all be a party question. The Settled Land Bill and the Conveyancing Bill, introduced by Lord CAIRNS, passed through Committee. On the report of the latter bill Lord COLINDALE urged an amendment to the clause relating to the office for taking the acknowledgments of married women. He suggested that the existence of this office was often a great protection to the property of married women. Lord CAIRNS answered that although the bill passed through the Lords' House last year the objection raised by Lord Colindale was now put forward for the first time. The present system had long been regarded as an expensive one, for which there was no real necessity, and it would be rendered even less necessary by the Lord Chancellor's bill for the better protection of the property of married women.

The reports of both the Bills were received. The LORD CHANCELLOR, in reply to Lord Stanley of Alderley, said that the Commissioners who inquired into the Macleod case were fully justified in finding that Captain Pearson had committed bribery under the Act. Captain Pearson had had an opportunity to move this finding, but he had not done so. In these circumstances, drawing a distinction laid down by the Act, he had felt it his duty to remove that gentleman from the Commission of the Peace. The great error of the present system was that it was not and could not legally have been found to have committed bribery or any other legal offence. He had strictly followed precedent and only given effect to the Act in support of his finding. Their Lordships adjourned at six o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at four o'clock. Sir A. ORMEY gave notice, amid cheering from both sides, that on Thursday he will put certain questions to the Irish Secretary in regard to the treatment of the "suspended" men in the County of Wick. Their Lordships adjourned at six o'clock.

In answer to Mr. LEWIS, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that the Government had no intention of moving a new writ for Oxford, whereupon Mr. LEWIS gave notice that he would move a resolution that the Government should be called upon to consider the physical and chemical evidence that the poison administered was acconitine is a question which requires more space than we can now devote to its consideration; but it may be safely assumed, from the absence of contradiction, that the statements of Drs. Stevenson and Dupré were unassailable. Two chemists of high eminence were in attendance at the trial, who had themselves experimented upon the questions at issue, the trial having been allowed for this express purpose, and they listened attentively to the evidence for the prosecution. If they could have suggested a flaw in the analytical processes described, or if they could in any way have diminished the effect of the chemical evidence, they would certainly have been called; and the fact that they were not called justifies the belief that this evidence was incontrovertible. Assuming, then, that the poison administered was acconitine, there is the clearest proof that acconitine was in the possession of the prisoner; and there has been no suggestion that it was in the possession of any other person, by or from whom it could have been conveyed to the deceased. Acconitine is not a common substance which people buy and sell without notice or recollection. It is one of the most deadly of known poisons, it is expensive, and it would not be supplied by a careful druggist to any customer of whose medical character he did not feel secure. If acconitine had been procured by the deceased himself, or by any member of Mr. Bedbrook's household, there would have been no difficulty in proving the purchase; for it is one of the advantages of the publicity of English jurisprudence that it always brings to light facts of such a nature. There is, therefore, no escape from the conclusion that the deceased was poisoned by acconitine, and that the acconitine was administered to him by the prisoner; and the only doubt which could remain is whether the administration was designed or accidental. In favour of the former belief there is the motive, pitifully small as it seems, of release from pecuniary embarrassment; and against the latter there is the fact of the deadly potency of the agent, which would render it second nature for any medically educated person to dispose of it in such a manner that no accident could possibly arise. The prisoner would know that the quantity of acconitine which he purchased from Allen and Rogers was enough to destroy the lives of forty people; and to use such a powerful poison carelessly, so that it might be introduced into a capsule by accident, would be scarcely less criminal than its deliberate administration. The case is a valuable illustration of what cannot be too widely known and remembered—namely, that the production of death by poison is one of the most perfidious forms of murder; and that poisoners, if they do for a time escape, owe their immunity chiefly to want of observation on the part of those by whom their victims are attended. Even when the poison is administered by a person whose name is known beyond the limits of the medical profession, the crime leaves traces distinctly legible to those who will be at the trouble of looking for them; and the conviction of Lamson, by bringing this truth into prominence, may contribute to the safety of many lives which his acquittal would have placed in peril. —Times.

FASHIONABLE NEWS.

Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) and the Duke of Edinburgh visited the Prince and Princess of Wales on Tuesday, and remained to luncheon. The Duke and Duchess of Marlborough have arrived at Thomas's Hotel from Bloomsbury Place. The Earl and Countess of Dunraven and family have arrived at 5, Chesterfield-gardens, for the parliamentary season. Viscountess Combermere and Hon. Mrs. Hunter arrived at Lady Combermere's house in Belgrave-square on Tuesday, after passing the winter at St. Leonards-on-Sea. Mr. and Lady Georgiana Peel have arrived at Thomas's Hotel. Mr. Richard and Lady Mary Arkwright have arrived in town for the season. Mr. and Mrs. Mahallade have arrived at 25, George-street, Hanover-square, for the season.

The death is announced of Lady Lytton, who, having taken place at her residence at Sydenham, on Sunday. The deceased lady, Rosina Lytton, who was born in 1804, and was the only surviving daughter of the late Mr. Francis Massy Wheeler, of Lizzard Connell, county Limerick, a grandson of the first Baron Massy. She married, in 1827, the late distinguished novelist, Sir Edward Lytton, who died in 1873. By this union there was but one child, the present Lord Lytton. Sir James Bourne, Bart., some years M.P. for Evesham, died suddenly at Liverpool on Tuesday. The deceased baronet was the eldest surviving son of the late Mr. Peter Bourne, of Hucksall, Lancashire, by Margaret, daughter of Mr. James Drinkwater, of Bent, Lancashire. He was born in 1812, and was educated at Shrewsbury. He was a justice of the peace and deputy lieutenant for the county of Warwick. He was also colonel-commander of the Lancashire Artillery Militia in 1863. The late Sir James was an unsuccessful candidate for Wexford in July, 1881, and had represented Evesham in the House of Commons in the Conservative interest from April, 1865, to the last general election. The deceased was created a baronet with other

political friends in May, 1880. He married in 1841 Sarah Harland, daughter of Thomas, Fourth Baron of Willow Hall, York. He succeeded in the baronetcy by his only son, Major James Dyson Bourne, of the 5th (Princess Charlotte of Wales's) Dragoon Guards, married to Lady Marian, only daughter, and sister of the present Marquis of Ely.

The death is announced from diptheria, at Philadelphia, of Lord George Francis Montagu, youngest brother of the Duke of Manchester. He was nominated an attaché in 1876, and after being employed for some months in the Foreign-office, was appointed to Constantinople in January, 1878. He was promoted to be a Third Secretary in June, 1879.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS.

(FROM THE "STANDARD.")

The proposal for the increased annuity to Prince Leopold will probably be brought before the House of Commons next week. It is said that between forty and fifty members of the Radical Party will vote against the proposal.

The Lords' Committee to inquire into the working of the Irish Land Act met again on Tuesday. All the members of the Committee attended, Earl Cairns arriving about half an hour late. Mr. Overend, of Dublin, a barrister and agent, was the only witness examined. The Committee adjourned till Thursday, when Mr. Townsend, of Dublin, and Mr. Simon Little, of Wexford, will attend to give evidence.

The Queen has been pleased to approve the appointment of Sir Henry Lock, K.C.B., Governor of the Isle of Man, to the Commission of the Peace for the County of Devon and Forests vacant by the death of the Hon. James K. Howard.

(FROM THE "DAILY NEWS.")

The Prime Minister was, with a brief interval, in the House of Commons on Monday afternoon for eleven hours. He was punctually in his place on Tuesday afternoon at half-past four, having left the House at four o'clock the same morning.

A movement is on foot amongst members of the Radical Party to bring forward a motion on Mr. Forster's desirability of ameliorating the condition of the suspects in Kilmainham. A similar project was started immediately after Parliament met, but was abandoned in view of the attitude assumed in the House by the Radical Leaguers.

We learn that as Mr. Gorst has the first place on the notice paper for his North Borneo motion on Friday, he intends to bring it forward on that evening. The debate is expected to be a long one. It is probable that Mr. Dillwyn, who has given notice of a motion on the same subject, will make his speech in the debate on Mr. Gorst's motion.

We understand that some of the electors of Northampton contemplate taking up the case of Bradlaugh in a somewhat novel fashion. One matter under consideration is the expediency of applying for a mandamus to compel him to perform his Parliamentary duties. It is believed that such an application has never been made in a court of law, and therefore the help of the law is entirely new.

The electors of Northampton also propose to apply to the House of Commons to be heard at the bar by counsel. The precedent for this is the case of the Middlesex electors, who were heard by counsel in the House in support of John Wilkes's claim to take his seat.

We also hear that it is not unlikely that a friendly suit will be brought against Mr. Bradlaugh in order to test the legality of the oath he administered to himself, and the circumstances that will be fresh in the recollection of the public.

Mr. Bradlaugh was in the House of Commons on Tuesday night during the question hour. He claims the right which, though anomalous, he administered to himself, and his hat on in presence of the Speaker. No other person, not being a member of the House, exercises this privilege.

We understand that the engineers have met with unexpected obstacles in piercing the Channel Tunnel. When they left them now, the other day was a stratum of rock a little softer than the rest. It has been successfully gone through, and the engines are now at work upon the same soft grey chalk impervious to moisture which the first stratum was.

A number of "Old Westminsters" and others interested in the School, have submitted to the Prime Minister a reply to the memorial of the "Committee for the Defence of Westminster Abbey." This consists of a list of names, and a petition which is signed by a large number of persons, and is presented to the House on the ground that it is not necessary, would involve useless expense and trouble, and would injure the School. Amongst the signatures are those of Lord Lytton, Lord Salisbury, Lord Cairns, Lord Selkirk, Lord Richard Grosvenor, and Mr. James Lowther.

A strong feeling exists amongst the Kent magistrates at the removal to Westminster of what is known as the Yalding murder case. Mr. William Dyke has undertaken to bring the matter under the notice of the House Secretary.

Mr. T. B. Potter, M.P., has received from Mr. Poulton Bigelow, the Cobden Club correspondent in New York, a letter informing him that the volume of the club have been stopped in their passage through the American post-office, and made subject to the payment of a duty. Although many volumes of the Cobden Club have been posted to the United States, no such unfriendly attack upon English literature has been previously made. Mr. Bigelow states that a tax of twenty cents is being levied upon the volume of essays on local government and taxation which Mr. Poulton lately edited.

CONVICTION OF LAMSON.

In the concluding sentences of his summing up in the trial of Dr. Lamson on Tuesday, Mr. Justice Hawkins earnestly begged the jury to remember that the law was the law, and that they would be the judges, and that they must do their duty without being influenced either by the sympathy evoked by the account of the dead lad's sufferings and death, or by that which would naturally feel for the living man's relatives. But during the jury's deliberations, some family document presented to him by his solicitor.

His wife, who had been in court during his own counsel's speech, and had afterwards remained in one of the waiting rooms, had been taken away. The court was crowded, and not a few ladies had nerved themselves for a possible, and even probable, scene of painful excitement. After the jury were seated, and until the Judge came in, the prisoner was seated at the back of the dock, and a thoughtful constable planted himself between him and the jury so that he might not gather from their appearance what was to every one else so obvious. When the Judge was seated the prisoner came forward with folded arms, bearing himself up with evident determination to acquit himself with courage. But during the tedious preliminary of calling over the names of the jury, the arms unfolded and the hands were crossed nervously on the front of the dock. When the verdict of "Guilty" was pronounced the wretched man started as if shot, and for a moment covered his face with his hands. Then he nervously pressed his hands once more on the front of the dock, and leant forward for support. So intense was the excitement occasioned by the prisoner's demeanour among those who could see him that some failed to observe that in the gallery there was slight applause, which had to be checked by the

usher. When the prisoner again endeavoured to stand upright it seemed as if he would fall, but the anxiety of the police officers—one on each side and one behind—to give him support roused him a little, and he seemed to wish them to leave him alone. When called to stand he did so, and the sentence of death should not be passed upon him, he folded his arms, held himself upright, and said, in a firm voice, "Merely to protest my innocence before God." During a brief, terrible pause the prisoner, standing with downcast head, and again seeking support on the front of the dock, was observed furiously to watch the horribly significant action of the Judge as he placed the black cap on his head, and then to shut his eyes, to change colour, and to show signs of a disposition to swoon as the Judge began to pronounce the dread sentence. Recovering himself again at the renewed consciousness of the conspicuous support being rendered him by the police officers, he bowed slightly at Mr. Justice Hawkins's statement that the law commanded him to pass the sentence of death. The Judge mercifully refrained from aggravating the torture of the prisoner with many words; the few he uttered were apparently as trying to him to say as to the more sensitive of the audience to hear. The formal sentence with its horrid detail as to the disposal of the body in the precincts of the prison, was soon pronounced, and the doomed man was half led, half carried out of the dock.

THE FIGHTING GANGS OF LONDON.

The fighting gangs of London have an organisation almost as complete as that of the police. Each gang has its captain, who, again, has his junior officers. A certain order is invariably preserved, and the members of the band are under certain responsibilities as to the spoils; for the gangs are by no means organised simply for the purpose of fighting each other. That is a pleasant delusion which helps to reconcile the London police to the fact of their existence. The majority of the members of these organisations—youths whose ages range from about sixteen to twenty-two—are, plainly and simply, thieves. There are bodies of young men who roam about at night simply for the sake of mischief, and whose playful violence frequently has unpleasant results; but when the regular gangs fight it is for mastery. It is not unfrequently happens that one set, bent on the extension of its territory, invades the district of another. Then there has to be some sort of rectification of frontier, brought about by the usual process. Recently there was such a conflict between the Dove-row gang and the Bow-commoners, in which the Dove-row gang came off victorious. Such incidents as these, however, are more episodes in the great epic of juvenile crime. The object of the gangs is robbery, if necessary with violence. "What do you do at nights?" I said recently, to a youth who had been mugged by one of these bodies of juvenile ruffians. "What did they do? Why, they waited about, and if anybody respectable passed they tripped him up and robbed him."

"Did they use violence sometimes?" "He should think they did. They were brutal, and they raised a hell of a row. Sometimes they carried sticks, but the belts were best. Oh, they took lots of things." "What would they do if they took a watch?" "Why, pawn it, to be sure. They were the worst sort of thieves, and they had had done the night before. Many a time they robbed shop tills. One of them hid himself behind the counter and the others waited outside. No, their parents didn't know much about it. Most of them had no parents. They were generally left home and went to lodgings. They lodged together, mostly two or three of them in one place. They didn't read much; very few of them could read; perhaps one would read to the others sometimes. Didn't know that they had a reading club, but had many a time knocked people down." "Yes," he said, in reply to another question, "they fought other gangs now and then to see who was strongest. Some of them had been in prison lots of times; they didn't mind it much—they got used to it. They were all right now, and was trying to lead a better life."

The fighting gangs are mainly composed of lads who, if they have ever done any work, have found the conditions of labour neither sufficiently pleasant nor sufficiently profitable. Utterly ignorant and untrained, they seem to see a kind of heroism in their present mode of life. Their spirit is much the same as that which animated the buccannier and the brigand. Punishment merely hardens them, and the law, which they regard with a shudder, is the wani of "pluck" and endurance. It is not merely during the last year or two that the gangs have come into existence. On the contrary, many of them have existed for years. They are the regular leaders of the vast criminal population of London. When a thief has age or experience enough to stand alone he leaves the gang and embarks in private ventures. Probably his maturity comes upon him in jail. He is too old to go back to the gang again; the "Wild boy" period has passed over, and he descends to the New-curt or Bow-common-lane for the obscure haunts of habitual crime. —Pall Mall Gazette.

LONDON GOSSIP.

(FROM THE "WORLD.")

Houses in London have been changing hands at a quick rate lately. Lord Airlie's house in Chesham-place, which only two years ago was purchased by the late Earl, Eversley, has been recently acquired by the latest and most approved aesthetic taste, under the direction of Lady Airlie, has just been bought by the Hon. Henry Brougham, who, it is said, has given the large sum of £35,000.

Lord Beaumont is desirous of entering the ranks of the noble coal-owners, of whom the Marquis of Londonderry and Lords Durham and Dudley may be said to be the chief. Near Exeter borings for coal are being made on the land of Lord Beaumont, which are expected to determine the question whether the Yorkshire coal-basin extends to that part—extends, that is, to within two dozen miles or so of Hull.

The Channel Squadron return to England about the middle of April, when they will be reinforced by the *Minotaur* and the *Sultan*. If the King and Queen of the Netherlands are escorted to England by the Dutch fleet, on the visit of their Majesties to attend the marriage of the Duke of Albany with Princess Helen of Walrad, then the Channel Squadron might be required to exchange international hospitalities with the Dutch officers. But it is settled that that fleet will come to our shores.

Sir B. Paget Seymour and Sir R. J. Macdonald will each be promoted, within a month or two, to the rank of Admiral, the former resigning the Mediterranean command, and the latter the post of Commander-in-Chief at the Nile. I have already announced that Lord John Hay will have the office of Lord High Admiral, but I still doubt whether the Prince of Leiningen will receive the Sheerness command, notwithstanding the assurances of a Service commission and his Highness's long period of non-employment.

With the advancement of Sir M. Culme-Seymour, Bart., and Sir F. W. Richards to flag-rank, Lord Northbrook will have the disposal of two naval aide-de-campships to the Queen.

On the death of the Earl of Wilton the Royal Yacht Squadron has lost a most popular and valuable commodore, and one who always had the best interests of the club at heart. The Marquis of Londonderry is looked upon as his likely successor.

The Kempton Park people are proud exceedingly. They have sat upon Sandown, and taken the shine out of Croydon. Their Hurdle Race has proved the big event "over sticks" of the spring; and, believe it or not, the shares of the company went up when the 13 runners were telegraphed last Friday at the Stock Exchange. There is a popular prejudice against 13 at a dinner-table; and from the nasty fact that Prince got, and the shakings received by Adams and Jones in the race, perhaps 13 may be considered unlucky over hurdles. Glencue caused the accident by hitting the hurdle with his forelegs, rolling over, and bringing down Suter and Assegni—close on his track—upon him. Assegni, who had been in the lead, fell over the hurdle, and the race was over. The latter was well backed, and Mr. Rupert Cartington and his friends won a good stake.

All the necessary arrangements having been completed, the Newmarket Turf Club have opened its doors in the Craven week. Its success is, I think, assured. In the first place, it supplies a great want. There can be no doubt about that, and Newmarket *habitués* will hear me out in this assertion, I feel sure. In the next place, it has fallen into good hands, and care will be taken that the men elected shall be in every way eligible. There are already over 100 applications for membership, and the first ballot will take place on the 25th inst.

It is said that Mr. Beasley has a very large bet about his winning the Liverpool Grand National three times in succession. His mount this year will probably be Moloch, who is said to be the best of the Eyrefield lot, though his public form indicates to very small potatoes indeed. The *ci-devant* Irish chaser Seaman, if in the form in which he won the Conyngham Cup at Punchestown last year, will, I think, be very hard beat; and they should not a lord win the Grand National. Lord Strathmore very nearly achieved it, if I recollect right, and Lord Queensberry rode a winner at Punchestown a good many years ago.

Though the Kildare hounds are mute in kennels, there are cakes and ale to be had in that sporting county still, and its beautiful vales are not by any means vales of tears. The Baron and Baroness de Robeck gave a very pleasant dance at Gort on Tuesday week, at which one or two of the beauties of the sister county (Meath) were present. But can it be true that a Kildare lady refused to dance with a cavalier in pink-and-blue facings (the Meath Hunt uniform) till he reappeared in the sombre coat adorned with the water and the water on alike? *Tantane animis celestibus tre!*

From friends in Devonshire gloomy forebodings as to the prospects of wild-stag hunting have more than once reached me; and all genuine sportsmen, who prize the continuance of this kind of sport, against the insatiable spirit of slaughter that has been so freely indulged of late. Close upon a hundred deer are far too many to kill in one season. More than ever, it is to be feared that Mr. Knight, the squire of Exmoor, exercised a very wise discretion when he discontinued the practice of spring hunting, and forbade it, so far as his own domain was concerned. So many stag heads are killed from August to October, and many young male deer have been unintentionally run into during the long period of hind hunting, that the herds will feel the effect of it for some time to come. Many of the oldest stag-hunters of the west are convinced that the seasons are considerably shortened, and this good old sport must soon die out in Devon and Somerset, as it did half a century ago among the moors and mountains of Cumberland. They have again and again raised their voices in vain. Perhaps more effect will be produced by a more widely circulated protest from a greater avail.

The Cambridge crew is composed of somewhat curious elements. There is one street preacher, one Presbyterian, one Nonconformist, and one Quaker. We are a merry family, we are!

Differences of opinion in the executive having led last season to a dissolution of the partnership so long existing between Maidenhead and Marlow in the annual regatta, the latter town has decided to establish a regatta of its own, to be held the day after the regatta of the former town. The regatta of Maidenhead has been divided, and those falling to the share of Marlow will be supplemented by others which are now being subscribed for. Major General Williams has come liberally to the aid of his constituents with the gift of £1000, and an annual subscription of £50. There can be no doubt that Bismarck Reach offers exceptional advantages for an aquatic holiday, whereas Maidenhead has no good reach. The rival claims of the two towns are a somewhat curious element. Marlow had the water, and Maidenhead supplied the money, or more than its share thereof. Marlow will now make a strenuous endeavour to add to its natural advantages the indispensable pecuniary means hitherto lacking.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

The Freeman's Journal contains an article in which it suggests to "the advanced section of the Irish party" that "it might be well somewhat to restrain their zeal and to temper it with a little more discretion." "The point of view of the word 'more' will be questioned by some people, but the Freeman continues: "There is a time for all things, and this seems to us to be particularly inappropriate time to further excite the hostility of the House of Commons or further to emphasise the fact, which unfortunately is sufficiently evident, that in the absence of their leader the party has not that cohesion or does not act in that systematic and organised manner which might be expected were he present." "It does not of course," it says, refer to the strong language used in the debate last night on the treatment of the suspects, which it thinks was quite justified, but to the resolutions passed at the meeting of the party yesterday calling the attention of the Irish constituencies to the habitual absence of several of their representatives in the present session of Parliament, and "instructing the secretaries to publish in future, from week to week, the names of the members present at and absent from the meetings of the party and from debates and divisions of the House of Commons." The Freeman thinks that to pass such a resolution without any previous notice to the members complained of is, "to say the least, not commendable." It considers that "for a meeting of ten members to pass what is practically a vote of censure upon their colleagues, and to threaten to hold them up to the anger and condemnation of their constituents and the country, is a very wrong step." It thinks that if resolutions of this kind are frequently adopted by small meetings of the Irish party they will tend to make that party less numerous, and to promote disorganisation instead of closer union. In fact, "the guiding hand of Mr. Parnell has been frequently missed since the opening of the Session," and it fears that it will be more missed between the period that will elapse between this and the critical division on the closure.

A NEW PHASE OF THE OATH DIFFICULTY.—A letter has been received in Plymouth from Mr. Richard Tangye, of Birmingham, in which that gentleman draws attention to the fact that, if he had consented to stand for Exeter, Cornwall, and had been elected, the oath difficulty would have affected him very peculiarly. Mr. Tangye, whose parents were members of the Society of Friends, entertains Quakers' objection to swearing, but, although a regular attendant at the Birmingham place of worship of the Society, he has not become a Church member, and consequently could not legally claim to be included amongst those to whom the law of affirmation would apply as at present constituted. Mr. Tangye points out that the law, as it now stands, affects those who, like him, are theologically unobjectionable, as well as those against whom such objections are levelled.

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LONDON, MARCH 18—19, 1882.

THE LIBERAL FAINT-HEARTS.

Speaker—who is the appointed guardian of impartial debate—to decide whether a claimant has been the victim of a deliberation and that the moment for registering the opinion of the House has come. So far we understand the arguments for a two-thirds majority, they are simply these: that whenever the majority are right and reasonable in their wish to shut the mouths of the minority, there will be at least a fair number of the minority too, so too, and so on, and so on, so that, whatever the decision, the losing party will have been fairly heard in argument against that decision. If, they say, the Speaker is right in believing, what he is to be required to declare, that the general sense of the House is in favour of closing the debate, then there must be some means of verifying that opinion of his, and this test can be better than any other, that a fair number of the losing side will win with the winning side on this preliminary point, and thereby to prove that wearing

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ARMY.

THE MEETING OF CONSERVATIVES

THE NEW ATTITUDE OF FRANCE

The Economist knows of no feature in the politics of the hour more remarkable, nor more likely to deceive observers, than the present condition of France. To all appearance she has fallen into a political torpor. It was only the other day that she insisted on electing her strongest man—a man upon whom the hopes of Europe were centred—to be the head, and began, under his guidance, to re-commence a great career:

He was supposed to have formed very large designs; his diplomacy began to be felt in Europe; and in the East, particularly Egypt, he showed himself decided and energetic. But now, after a few months of coming again a perceptible Power, and might also be a troublesome one. Suddenly M. Gambetta fell, and the whole machinery, why, and was, apparently, by the Ministry of the present agent of his own, who, in apparently quiescence. Great countries rearrange their character, nor does their his-

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

Consideration: _____

Sir J. Hay expressed his entire approval of

Sir G. Campbell regarded the charter as sanction to annexation. Mr. Onslow warmly

charter, declaring it to be irreconcilable with the Midlothian speeches. Mr. A. Balfo

commented on the singularity of a debate on the attack on the Government which had been carried on from the ministerial benches and its defence undertaken by its political opponents. Sir C. Dillke went at length into the diplomatic correspondence to show the Government's position in regard to the alleged cause of complaint against us. Sir S. Northcote, although not disposed to blame the Government too severely, thought their conduct had been inadequate and was making frank and open criticism of the Government's thorough-going *Civis Romanus* conduct laid down by the Prime Minister that a company of British traders had a right to British protection wherever they went. The House thought, however, that the Government had thought of some remarkable advice to the Government on political education.

On a division, the motion was negatived by 125 to 62. The House then went to the Committee of Supply, and Supplemental to the Excess Estimate of 1890-91, and the Government proposed to add £1,000,000 to the Vote on Zulu war, etc., were agreed to. The House adjourned at a quarter to 1 o'clock.

FASHIONABLE NEWS

son of the late Sir Henry Fletcher, Bart., and Miss Emily Wade, daughter of the Rev. Canon Wade, rector of St. Anne's, Soho, is arranged to take place on April 18.

THE CONVICT LAMSON

by hypodermic or subcutaneous injection, it seems he adopted that habit during the Russo-

vo | any of the weapons which the law must
for the protection of the public.

VANITY FAIRINGS

se | he Commissioners of Police, stated that
| the prisoner was only arrested on Friday,

THE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT'S ILLNESS.—

JUMBO AND MR. OSCAR WILDE.—The sen

STRANGE DEATH OF A CLERGYMAN.—Mr. S

Lanham held an adjourned inquest at the Paulet Arms, Paulet-road, Cambridge, on Tuesday, touching the death of the Rev. S. Campbell, who was killed by a bullet from the treatment of a person who stated that he was a qualified surgeon. Mr. T. A. Smyth, after being cautioned, said he was a graduate of arts at the Queen's University of Ireland, a student of medicine at St. Thomas's Hospital, and recently a medical officer to the 10th London Regiment. He had been registered. He had devoted many years to the study of medicine, and had been consulted by registered medical men. He had a brother-in-law in a large way of practice as a medical man, and he had often studied with him, as a student, and he had been a medical officer in the treatment of Mr. Campbell's case. He had a plate on his door with the words "Smith, surgeon," on it, but had taken it down since this inquiry commenced. He had no diploma as a surgeon or as a physician. He was 19 years of age, and had been 18 months in London, and had a certificate as a Bachelor of Arts. He had no degree from Cambridge. He did not represent for Mrs. Campbell that he was the staff of St. Thomas's Hospital; but he advised Mr. Campbell to ask how it was that he was a medical officer, and if he was not to be managed, he said he was often downed by St. Thomas's, and he thought he could not win him. The Jury, after a short consultation, returned a verdict of "Manslaughter" against Smyth, and gave him into custody of the County Jail.

The Court was then informed that the number of medical students, and as accused passed along the room he was peevish with eggs and assaulted. An appeal was made to the Coroner for protection; but the Coroner would do nothing, and the only police officer who was in the inquiry was at the moment at the basement of the building instead of being in the Court.

THE MURDER IN FINCHLEY WOOD

who appeared to watch the case on behalf of the Commissioners of Police, stated that the prisoner was only arrested on Friday,

STRANGE DEATH OF A CLERGYMAN.—Mr. S

Galignani's Messenger.

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NICE.—15, QUAI MASSÉNA.

Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 19-20, 1882.

THE HERZEGOVINIAN INSURRECTION.

The intelligence with regard to the events in South-Eastern Europe is conflicting, as it comes from a Slavonic or from an Austrian source. The general effect, however, is indisputably in favour of the conclusion that a mighty effort of Austria has succeeded in repressing the rising on the Herzegovinian border. Although insurgent bands continue to roam about the mountains and Austrian detachments are kept in constant alarm of surprise, the neck of the agitation is broken. Austria has accomplished this result by a skillful manifestation of extraordinary power. Without the concentration of forces upon which the Government insisted the movement would have daily gathered strength instead of abating. The Administrations of the Empire and the Kingdom are to be congratulated on the wisdom and determination they have evinced. They are not the less to be condemned for the counsels which rendered their action expedient and necessary. Imprudent as may have been the original policy which led Austria to accept or seek the control of Bosnia and Herzegovina, it does not lie in the mouth of Europe to criticise the decision. Austria, in occupying the territory, undertook a duty which some State had to be selected by Europe to fulfil and no other State could discharge less invidiously. The mistake, for which it can claim no immunity from criticism, is in its forgetfulness of a primary condition of the problem it had to solve. Bosnia and Herzegovina had been placed in its hands on account of their invertebrate anarchy and incompetence to understand the principles of a regulated commonwealth. The business of their new governor was to teach them the rudiments. Gradually and forbearingly the difficult process ought to have been tried of exhibiting the advantages of settled order rather than its terrors. On the contrary, the country has been treated as if it was at a stage of political intelligence which would have made Austrian intervention gratuitous and superfluous. In other words, Austrian local administration has been Austrian. No power has done more for Europe than the Austrian Empire. For the common welfare, or what it sincerely thought the common welfare, it has, time after time, undergone the greatest dangers and suffered extreme evils. In the Austrian nature there is nothing unkindly and nothing narrowly selfish. Its single vice is that it will insist upon doing good to others after its own fashion, and not after theirs. Austrian military authorities believed, not altogether unreasonably, that the population of the occupied lands was bound to contribute in person to its own military defence. Exaction of a contribution, whether strictly or not in the bond contracted at Berlin, was the most trifling of burdens in the shape it took. Equal service with the troops of the Monarchy might be regarded as an honour. Vienna could not comprehend that the gentlest form of obligation to share in public burdens must appear as intolerable oppression to a people which for centuries enjoyed no opportunity of associating State demands with State benefits.—Times.

THE JUDGES AND THE ASCOT PRIZE FIGHT.

Messrs. Coney and Co. may rejoice exceedingly at the ultimate failure of the proceedings against them. They are clearly entitled to belief in their contention that their presence at the Ascot fight was entirely innocent and accidental; that they had neither act nor part in the "disgusting exhibition," and that the crowd was so dense that they could not get away. These interesting spectators of a conflict in which they were not interested may be congratulated on their deliverance; but, at the same time, it seems pretty clear that should another "little mill" ever "come off" in the open air, in the vicinity of Ascot or elsewhere, it will be exceedingly difficult, in the face of the decision of Saturday, to distinguish between the innocent and the guilty beholders of the affray. A man charged with being an accomplice in an assault merely because he had witnessed it might put in twenty pleas which might be held valid in his exoneration. He might declare that he was short-sighted, and could not see whether the men were fighting with boxing-gloves or with their naked fists; or that there was a taller man before him, and he could not witness the fight; or that he turned his head aside, or shut his eyes and would not see it. He might urge that he endeavoured to get away, but was impeded by spectators less innocent than he; or that he was an open-air preacher and wished to exhort the persons present against pugilism; or that he had approached the ring only for the purpose of ascertaining whether his son or some other kinsman or friend in whom he took an interest was present, and of persuading the misguided youth to abandon forthwith the revolting scene of profligacy and violence. Again, unless it could be clearly shown that the man knew that the fight was about to take place, that he had expressed his intention of going to it, or that he had made a bet on it, or that he had taken a railway or steamboat ticket for the precise locality where it had been settled that the illegal "as-

sault of arms" should take place, it is difficult to discern how mere presence at a prize-fight, without cheering or exclamations of encouragement to the persons present, and without proven collusion with the principals or seconds in the fight, could be construed into participation in the assault committed. On the other hand, a very small share of common sense and acquaintance with the classes who still continue to patronise the "ring" will unmistakably point to the inference that ninety-nine persons out of a hundred who are present at a prize-fight are voluntary spectators, and are enthusiastically interested in the episodes of the strife between the modern emulators of the fame of Epheus and Eurymachus. It has been notorious in and out of "sporting circles" these many months past that the fight between Burke and Mitchell was witnessed by a large number of gentlemen whose rank and position in society should have taught them better; and that the "noble art of self-defence," although no longer patronised as it was in the palmy days when Lord Byron and Lord Althorp, Gully, "Gentleman" Jackson, and the Game Chicken partook of that memorable dinner at Brickhill, still finds admirers and supporters among a class who, most assuredly, cannot be numbered in the same category with the "roughs" whose blackguardism made honest sparring in public, intolerable to the peaceable and reputable section of the community.—Daily Telegraph.

PRINCE BISMARCK'S TURKISH POLICY.

The Berlin correspondent of the Standard telegraphed on Sunday night:—The Pan-Slavist organs of Russia have greatly moderated their tone of late since they have become convinced that the *entente cordiale* between Germany and Austria rests on too solid a basis to be easily disturbed. The greater portion of the German Press, including the most virulent opponents of Prince Bismarck's home policy, pronounce the way to be open for Turkey to the German side a masterpiece of policy, and universally believed here that in the event of an outbreak of hostilities between Russia and Germany, the latter Empire would now have an invaluable ally in Islam. Nor will the Mahometan connection prove a hindrance to Germany in case of a Franco-Russian alliance, inasmuch as it would necessitate the presence of large French forces along the African coast of the Mediterranean. In his foreign policy the prestige of the Chancellor continues undiminished.

FASHIONABLE NEWS.

The Prince and Princess of Wales gave a dinner at Marlborough House on Saturday evening, at which the following were present:—The Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), the Lord Privy Seal (Lord Cairns), the Lord Steward (Earl Sydney), and the Countess of Devon, the Lord Chamberlain (the Earl of Kinnaird), and the Countess of Kinnaird, the Duchess of Bedford, the Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury, the Earl of Dunmore, the Earl and Countess of Hardwicke, the Earl and Countess of Cork, the Earl and Countess of Rossmore, the Right Hon. Viscount Hinchinbrooke, the Right Hon. Sir Stafford and Lady Northcote, Sir Nathaniel de Rothschild, General Sir Francis and Lady Seymour, Sir Frederick Leighton, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Baring, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Higgins, Mr. George Sheldrake, Lady Sophia Macnamara and Major Arthur Collicott (in attendance on the Princess Louise), Colonel and Lady Emily Kingscote, Colonel A. Ellis.

On Saturday, the 31st anniversary of the birth of the Princess Louise was celebrated with the customary honours paid to members of the Royal Family. The drum-major doing duty with the detachment of Foot Guards, which mounted the Queen's Guard at St. James's Palace, wore his uniform in honour of the occasion, and the band of the Grenadier Guards played a choice selection of music in the courtyard of the Palace. The band from the Duke of York's School went voluntarily to Kensington Palace and played beneath the Princess's window a great Her Royal Highness has always taken a great and personal interest in the school, and she was much touched by this attention on the part of the boys.

The Princess Mary Adelaide and the Duke of Teck honoured the Earl and Countess de La-Warke by their company at dinner on Saturday.

The Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz and Prince Adolphus, hereditary Grand Duke of Oldenburg, visited the Palace on Saturday afternoon from Germany.

The Earl and Countess of Derby left St. James's-square on Saturday for Keston.

The Earl and Countess of Roden have left for Italy.

The Earl of Arlino, who obtained leave of absence from his regiment in India to order to attend the funeral of his father, left at the close of last week on his return to India to rejoin the 10th Hussars.

ANARCHY IN IRELAND.

The Dublin correspondent of the Times writes:—The condition of the country was revealed during the past week in the reports from the Assizes. The arrests and number of crimes and outrages perpetrated in several districts, beginning with that at Epsum, expression of horror and alarm taken in the quarters in which, until recently, it had been represented in a favourable light. Such events as the attempt upon the life of Mr. Carter and the atrocities committed in parts of Clare and Kerry appear to have given a shock to the strongest nerves and shattered the calm philosophy with which a class of politicians were accustomed to view the state of Ireland. There is for the present a very remarkable agreement of opinion among all parties as to the general facts, but a very wide difference as to the conclusions to be drawn from them. It is admitted on all hands that the measures taken by the Government for the repression of disorder have not proved so successful as it was expected they would prove, even in districts where temporary success gave promise of permanent improvement. Some persons go so far as to assert that they have absolutely broken down, and others argue that the outrages are the natural result of the exceptional measures employed to prevent them. With this theory in view they are now ready to admit any amount of violence and anarchy. It is no longer alleged that the accounts of outrages are invented or, at least, exaggerated and that they are scandalous lies upon a peaceful and orderly people who only want to assert their rights and would recoil from the perpetration of crime. Now the tone of the Press and of popular leaders is changed. A new programme has been issued, a new score arranged, and the several performers play in concert. The theme is coercion, and the whole movement is intended to show that it has entirely broken down as a means of repression, that it has aggravated rather than diminished the evil it was intended to remedy, and that it ought to be abandoned. The policy of retreat and reversal which has now pressed upon the Government has but one quality to recommend it—namely, its simplicity. In this respect it is very tempting an Executive, harassed and worried on every side, who, it is assumed by one party or the other, can do nothing right, but are

ways committing palpable blunders or criminal acts. It is a policy which is not only point out errors and failures, but ignores those efforts when successful, are careful not to say what policy they would substitute for what they denounce as a policy of coercion; but the inference they leave to be drawn from their own silence is that the Government should repeal the Coercion Acts, release the suspects, and let the country drift, as it must, into a civil war or the peace which might follow from the absolute transfer of property from those who are still supposed to be its owners to those who have possession of it and covet its ownership. Nothing can be more illogical than the process of reasoning by which some advocates of this policy delude themselves and others. It is said that coercion has failed, therefore discard it altogether. The more reasonable course would be to see where it is defective and endeavour to improve its efficiency. But has it failed because it has not done all that was expected? We answer, not to do so. It has failed because it is said they have increased; but would they be likely to cease and not rather to increase tenfold if the hand which now even partially restrains the wrongdoers were withdrawn? Have any of the advocates of a general amnesty considered with a knowledge of the country what would be the effect of letting loose upon the country 600 men who are charged with various criminal acts, though for obvious reasons they have not been prosecuted? Would not the whole country be at once ablaze with excitement; would not the wild passions of the populace, which are now kept in check, burst forth with the flush of triumph and the fury of revenge and the last trace of social order be obliterated? We answer, not to do so. It is said that coercion has failed, therefore discard it altogether. 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LONDON, MARCH 20—21, 1882.

THE THREATENED MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

The resumption of the debate on Mr. Gladstone's first resolution touching the new rules of procedure was preceded on Monday by a Ministerial statement with regard to the course of public business in Parliament. Mr. Gladstone announced that it would be impossible to take the Budget before Easter. He suggested a doubt on this point some time ago, and a doubt in these matters is too easily transformed into a certainty. It will be unnecessary, therefore, to suspend the debate on procedure before the holidays, which are to begin on the 4th of April, the Tuesday in Passion Week. The public accounts are made up to the 31st of March, the end of the financial year, and this, according to the Prime Minister's calculation, compels the postponement of the Budget till after the recess. The time that remains, therefore, at the disposal of the Government during the next fortnight will be devoted to the consideration of Mr. Gladstone's resolutions, or rather to the first of them. It is scarcely to be expected that the House will get beyond, if indeed it be able to get through, the debate on the *clature* proposals before Easter. If Lord Hartington's speech yesterday is to be taken as showing the spirit in which the Government desire to conduct this business, we cannot entertain any sanguine hope of rapid progress. Mr. Raikes resumed the debate with a pungent and vivacious criticism upon the discrepancies between the Prime Minister's resolution and his utterances in Opposition. He examined the arguments in favour of the Ministerial scheme, with incidental and pointed reference, not only to Mr. Gladstone, but to Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Goschen, and Lord Hartington. Effective, however, as his speech undoubtedly was, it was open, in some degree, to Lord Hartington's remark—in the nature, it must be observed, of a *tu quoque*—that the late Chairman of Committees had abandoned the advantages of his disciplined impartiality and his practical experience and had interposed in debate as an ordinary party man. Still, Mr. Raikes, if he descended to make a party speech, made a very telling one, the effect of which may be measured by the degree in which it ruffled the usually serene temper of Lord Hartington. The heat thus contributed to the discussion soon subsided, and towards the end of the sitting some thoughtful and temperate speeches were delivered by Mr. Fowler, Mr. Bryce, Sir John Lubbock, and others. Sir Richard Cross replied in a closely reasoned argument to the Prime Minister, but though he referred to some of Lord Hartington's remarks he did not take up the gauge of party battle the latter had flung down. The menace of a Ministerial crisis is, no doubt, grave; but there are political interests which ought to be more precious to public-spirited men than the fate of a Cabinet or even the temporary fortunes of a party. We are convinced that if members of the House of Commons have the courage to follow their own reason and conscience they will find that the Ministry are not ready to throw up office merely because the *clature* is to be weighed with conditions like those exacted under the rules of urgency last year. It is alleged that urgency was applied to a different state of things from that in which the *clature* would be usually resorted to; but, as Mr. Raikes pointed out, the difference is on the side of making the latter less rigorous than the former. Lord Hartington's personal repugnance to the *clature* by a majority including the main body of both parties appears to be rooted in the memories of his own experience as a leader of Opposition. He objects, indeed, to giving power divorced from responsibility to an Opposition by requiring their assent to closing debate; but this objection, if of any validity, would condemn the power informally exercised, as Mr. Gladstone lately reminded the House, by the consent of both parties. Sir John Lubbock warned his political associate that the time would come when their new weapon would be used against themselves, and it is important for every section of the Liberal party, for Radicals as well as Whigs, to consider what their attitude would be if they had to face a Conservative majority armed with the power of *clature*. It is very well for Lord Hartington—perhaps with a too lively remembrance of the Army Bill debates and of Mr. Chamberlain's repudiation of his "late leader"—to declare that he would rather have no share of responsibility at all and would leave the majority, if they abused their strength, to be taught the lesson of experience. No doubt, there is a Nemesis which follows the abuse of authority, and it is well that powerful Ministries and large majorities should bear that truth in mind. But we do not submit to despotism or to anarchy because those evils engender their own remedies. An abuse of power, like an error in policy, may do irreparable mischief before it brings about a reaction. What would be thought of a proposal that no persons except members of the Church of England should sit on juries, if it were defended as Lord Hartington and others defend the transfer of the power of closing debates from both parties, who, according to Mr. Gladstone, have heretofore "virtually possessed" it, to the dominant party alone? Would Protestant Dissenters and Roman Catholics be satisfied with an assurance that in the atmosphere of free discussion no wrong could be done? It is equally idle to ask Conservatives to trust implicitly to the reasonableness and justice of a Liberal majority, or Liberals to place similar confidence in a Conservative majority, when the question to be decided is whether the discussion of a particular subject has been exhausted or not. The only way in which the *clature* can be made tolerable is to intrust it, as Sir John Lubbock has proposed, to a majority constituted so as to embrace under ordinary conditions the mass of both parties. But no such arrangement would satisfy the impatient spirits which look to accomplish a series of party triumphs by silencing opposition. Mr. Gladstone's description of the moderate and cautious manner in which the rule would be applied is demolished by Lord Hartington's anticipations of the practical achievements to be expected from its operation, even more than by Sir Richard Cross's forcible analysis of the change it would work in the life and structure of the House of Commons.—*Times*.

THE SALE OF POISONS.

Messrs. Allen and Hanbury have addressed to the *Times* a letter dealing with the existing regulations for the sale of poisons. They admit that a chemist when applied to for very potent poisons by unknown persons may be brought to exercise discretion, as was done by an assistant to Messrs. Bell and Co. in the case of Lamson:—

But at the same time they apparently wish to convey the impression that this discretionary power is only to come into play in circumstances glaringly exceptional, such as the example, when a *notorious* medical man makes repeated demands for dangerous poisons, and admits that they are for internal use. Now, we venture to say that the law, while requiring chemists to supply poisons to a medical man, does not exonerate them from the duty of taking all reasonable precautions to ascertain that the applicant is really what he professes to be. An ordinary customer is supplied with poison only when he is personally known to the chemist, or can bring a householder to certify to his identity. A medical man is dispensed from these formalities, but that renders it more rather than less incumbent on the chemist, to use due diligence to ascertain whether the applicant is really entitled to the exemption. The personation of a medical man is not nearly so difficult or so rare as Messrs. Allen and Hanbury imagine. The technical method of writing an order on which they rely may be adopted by any intelligent person with very little trouble. The whole secret is to write dog-Latin instead of the Queen's English, and to write it as badly as possible, appealing for more security some indecipherable hieroglyphic to duty as initials. Besides this, there is another danger which Messrs. Allen and Hanbury altogether overlook—namely, the personation of one medical man by another. Grant that the public cannot master this wonderfully protective technique, still there is nothing to hinder a man in Lamson's position from passing himself off under any name in the Medical Directory that strikes his fancy. The truth is that Messrs. Bell and Co.'s assistant complied at once with law and common sense when he suggested to Lamson that he had better get someone where he was personally known to the chemist, and have someone if they want it, but the public must have the means of knowing in case of need who have actually got it. That is about all we can do in the way of protection; but so much ought to be done.—*Globe*.

FASHIONABLE NEWS.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), and attended by Colonel A. Elliot, visited the Victoria Hospital for Sick Children, Queen's Road, Chelsea, on Monday afternoon. His Royal Highness afterwards went to visit Mr. Agnew's picture gallery in Bond-street.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, attended by Lady Emily Kingscote and Mr. A. Ellis, dined with the Duke of Cambridge at Gloucester House on Monday evening. Upon the arrival of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh at Haverfordwest on Monday morning, rain was falling, but it abated about seven, and was succeeded by the sun. George IV. passed through the town in 1821, and since then, until the present occasion, no Royal visitor has been to Haverfordwest. The Duke and Duchess were received at the railway station by Lord Kensington (the Lord Lieutenant of Pembroke), Mr. G. E. C. Phillips (lord lieutenant of the town and county of Haverfordwest), and the mayor, Mr. W. P. Ormond. At Castle-square the mayor, accompanied by the corporation, presented an address of welcome and congratulatory, which the Duke briefly acknowledged amid loud cheers. The Royal party were escorted to the town boundaries by the D troop of Castle-martin Yeomanry Cavalry, commanded by Colonel Sandrin, the militia and volunteers acting as a guard of honour. At St. David's, which was extensively decorated, their Royal Highnesses were received by Dean Allen and other officials, and an address was again presented. The object of the Royal visit here understood to be a desire to explore the Antiquary Palace of Monmouth, and to visit antiquarian remains. The Duke and Duchess returned to Neyland in the evening.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught arrived in town from Windsor on Monday, and left for leaving England. Their Royal Highnesses will leave for Biarritz, where the infant Princess will remain at Windsor Castle.

The Duke of Cambridge had a dinner party at Gloucester House on Monday evening, at which the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and Prince Adolphus, the Hereditary Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, dined with his Royal Highness.

The Lord President of the Council, Earl Spencer, is expected to leave for Mentone this week in order to attend her Majesty as Secretary of State.

THE CONVICT LAMSON.

Since Saturday the friends of Lamson have received by letter and telegraph important testimony respecting his alleged unsoundness of mind. Among the telegrams received on Monday is one from a prominent gentleman in New York, who states that he has forwarded to the prisoner's solicitor duly-authenticated documents proving that Lamson's aunt, grandmother, grand-uncle, and other relatives died in Bloomingdale Lunatic Asylum, State of New York. Before the memorial presented to the House of Commons, it was decided to attach to it a tabulated statement showing the quantities of morphia purchased by the prisoner during the past twelve months, and the occasions on which it was bought. As the drug was bought for Lamson's own use, it is thought that by this means the friends will be able to show that he was a victim to that drug. The prisoner preserves upon the whole a very calm demeanour, and seems to think a good deal more of his friends and relations than he does of the doom to which he has been sentenced. His father has had an interview with him, and remained some time in the condemned cell, but the culprit made no allusion whatever to the crime for which he has been condemned, and seemed to be perfectly satisfied almost without knowledge as to what had been transpiring during the past few months. In health he has much improved, but at night he is restless and disturbed. During Monday Lamson was occupied a good deal in writing letters, chiefly of a purely business character, and in pursuing without any apparent depth of thought, the various devotional works which had been placed at his hand by the Rev. Mr. Gilbert, the chaplain of the prison. His wife visited him during the day. Numerous letters have been received from members of the medical profession, expressing a wish to sign a memorial on the prisoner's behalf, under the belief that, even if he administered the drug, he did not know what he was doing. But his friends attach more importance to the signatures of a few well-known men than to a long list. Mr. Mills, who has acted for the condemned man as his solicitor throughout, visited Lamson on Sunday evening at Wandsworth. He found him quite calm and able to talk of business affairs, but every now and again he appeared to drift into a different region, to lose the point on which they were conversing, and to start a new subject altogether. The memorial to the Home Secretary has been drafted, but has not yet been finally arranged.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

The LORD CHANCELLOR took his seat on the woolsack at five o'clock.

LORD GRANVILLE announced, in reply to Lord Redesdale, that he intended to propose that their Lordships should adjourn for the Easter Recess from the 31st inst. until the 20th April.

LORD DELAWARE moved the second reading of the Railways (Continuous Brakes) Bill, the object of which was to require every passenger train should be provided with a brake which was continuous, self-acting and capable of being applied both by engine-driver and guard; instantaneous in case of accident, and capable of being easily adjusted and removed. The measure also provided that Railway Companies should be responsible for vehicles which did not belong to them, if running on their lines, and empowered the Board of Trade to inspect rolling stock.

LORD GRANVILLE urged that legislation on so important a question ought to be undertaken only on the responsibility of the Government. Lord Aberdeen gave a qualified support to the Bill, and eventually it was read a second time, on the understanding that the subject should be taken up on behalf of the Government by the Committee should be postponed until May.

LORD BURY having asked whether it was true that the Military Committee sitting on the Channel Tunnel scheme were prohibited, by the terms of reference, from inquiring whether the construction of the tunnel was or was not advisable from a strategic point of view, Lord Morley once more explained that the Committee was of a purely scientific character, and that the questions referred for its consideration were the practicability of closing the tunnel against an enemy, and the means to be employed for that purpose.

LORD SALISBURY, remarking that the question was one that excited a good deal of feeling, and that it would be impossible to bring it to be considered before a final decision was arrived at, to which Lord Granville replied that it was certainly not intended to preclude Parliament from the consideration of this important subject.

After some further consideration, the subject dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

The Speaker took the chair shortly before four o'clock.

More than 50 questions were addressed to various members of the Government, but the great majority had no general interest.

In answer to Lord G. Hamilton, Mr. Gladstone said that it would be impossible to bring in the Budget before Easter; and subsequently, in answer to Sir S. Northcote, he said that the Easter Recess would be from a Morning Sitting on Tuesday, April 4, to the Monday evening following.

Mr. Gladstone gave notice that after the first of the New Rules of Procedure had been agreed to, he would move that the first seven and the last three be made standing orders. The two intervening resolutions he mentioned were amendments to existing standing orders.

THE CLOTURE.

The Adjourned Debate on the *clature* was resumed by

MR. RAIKES, who, in an effective speech, examined in succession the various arguments which the proposal had been recommended. First, with regard to foreign examples, he pointed out that it did not exist in the Legislatures of Hungary, Sweden and Spain—countries in which Parliamentary institutions as distinguished from mere legislative chambers were of ancient growth, and in which there had always been a tradition of freedom—and in the important Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, and Canada, the *clature* was not in use; and he remarked that the proposal was in answer to what all information was laid before the House was dated just three months after the Government took office and before the troubles of the Government arose. But only twelve months before this, he reminded the House, the Ministry had been in power for 50 years, and the prolongation of debate, from which he read several striking extracts. As to the Constitutional precedents, he pointed out that they were taken from the proceedings in the judgment of the House of Lords in the case of the murder of Lord Stratford, and he disapproved of that precedent, and he pointed out that it was only applied to a measure declared by a Minister of the Crown to be important, and that it required a majority of three to one. Dealing with the proposal as it had been recommended, he pointed out that it was a bare majority on the ground of party expediency, he referred to Lord Hartington's speech at Nelson as showing that it was desired solely to carry out a party programme; and in answer to the plea of patriotic indignation at obstructive tactics, he pointed out that the rule, he asserted that no connexion had been shown between this particular remedy and the evil which had to be remedied. It was unreasonable, he thought, that such a proposal should proceed from Mr. Gladstone, who had been in power for 50 years, and he pointed out that it had consumed more time than any two members since the time of King John, and he blamed him also for not acting in concert with the leader of the Opposition and for introducing the name of the Speaker in the debate. The necessity for some measure of reform, he foresaw great difficulties from placing the power of the *clature* in the hands of a bare majority. The Speaker, he thought, ought to have some indication by which to interpret the evident sense of the House, and he was not prepared to see that the weapon might be turned against them.

On the motion of Mr. Bessford-Hope, the debate was adjourned.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at 7 o'clock.

FURTHER OUTRAGES IN IRELAND.

Early on Monday morning the body of a young man named Peter Andrews was found on the footway opposite the house, No. 11, Tighe-street, Dublin. The morning was wet, and the man's clothes were dry, he could not have been lying there more than a few minutes when he was found by the police. The body was still warm, and upon raising it two marks, which are believed to be bullet marks, were found behind the left ear. Deceased was wearing a dark coat, and his necktie was pulled off as if he had been struggling with someone. His hat was lying several yards away. There were marks of blood on the footway where the body was found, and the police could trace blood marks on the flags as far as the house No. 6, and upon entering the hall of that house a large quantity of blood was found on the stairs leading to a room occupied by a young man named Kinsella, an ironmonger's assistant. Kinsella was arrested in his bed. He trembled when he saw the police, and his coat, vest, and trousers were saturated with blood, and some blood stains were found on a piece of paper in the room. The body of the murdered man was identified as that of Peter Andrews, assistant in a barber's shop in the Coombe, one of the lowest districts in the city. It appears that Kinsella called for Andrews on the previous evening; and it is also stated that they were together at the house where the blood-marks were found. The police searched the houses in the district, but failed to find any firearms or other weapons. No person can be found who heard any sound of firearms, or who can throw any light on the circumstances. Kinsella, when before the police magistrate on Monday evening, admitted all knowledge of the affair, and said the marks on his clothes were stains of blood. He was remanded until Friday.

There is no reason assigned for the outrage, but it is surmised that Andrews was suspected of being an informer.

Baron DE WORMS contended that, after Lord Hartington's speech, it was clear that the ancient liberty of speech was to be extinguished solely for party purposes. If such a power was to be established, it should be by such a majority as would guard against any possibility of abuse, and he showed that the House of Commons had been a revolutionary body for dealing with the House of Commons. Mr. BORSALINO and Colonel CANNISTON supported the resolution, while Mr. DAWKINS spoke against it.

MR. KENNEDY claimed for the Conservative party as deep as that of the Liberal opponents in the dignity and efficiency of the House, and while admitting the necessity for amending the rules and the sound judgment displayed in some of the later resolutions, was unable to see any remedial value in the *clature*. It was a revolution, not a reform, of procedure; it would still a legitimate and fair discussion, and would degrade the position of Speaker.

MR. SHIELD supported the resolution, in which he saw no danger, and attributed the opposition solely to a dislike to certain legislation.

MR. WATSON described the Ministerial proposal as a Turkish alternative—"the bow-string or the sack."

MR. H. FRYER thought that the question which the House had to decide was whether every member should have a right to prolong the debate indefinitely and to stop business. The *clature*, he pointed out, already existed by arrangement, and as an instance, he mentioned the debate of last year, when the proposal to give a majority, however large, the power of closing the debate, he regarded the judicial initiative given to the Speaker as ample protection to minorities.

As to a suggestion of a tyrannical or a partisan Speaker, he regarded such a contingency as altogether improbable.

SIR R. CROSS began by pointing out that, notwithstanding the desperate efforts of the Government, the resolutions passed by the House of Commons had not been carried out. The Ministerial proposals became more serious on account of Mr. Gladstone's claim that they were studiously moderate and his hint that other matters would remain over for future consideration, and also because Lord Hartington had placed them on the footing of a party question which the Government staked its existence. The *clature*, he believed, went beyond the necessities of the case and put a restraint upon the liberties of the House, and he pointed out that, as to the Speaker's part, he insisted that sooner or later he would interpret the voice of the bare majority to be the evident sense of the House. He objected to the *clature* because it would enormously increase the power of the Ministry, and would diminish the independence of the private member, and towards the end of the Session particularly it would be used to stop all inconvenient motions and all discussion of grievances on going to Supply. Replying to Lord Hartington's speech, he asked whether, if the resolution were carried, a bare majority would be applied to a measure declared by a Minister of the Crown to be important, and that it required a majority of three to one. Dealing with the proposal as it had been recommended, he pointed out that it was a bare majority on the ground of party expediency, he referred to Lord Hartington's speech at Nelson as showing that it was desired solely to carry out a party programme; and in answer to the plea of patriotic indignation at obstructive tactics, he pointed out that the rule, he asserted that no connexion had been shown between this particular remedy and the evil which had to be remedied. It was unreasonable, he thought, that such a proposal should proceed from Mr. Gladstone, who had been in power for 50 years, and he pointed out that it had consumed more time than any two members since the time of King John, and he blamed him also for not acting in concert with the leader of the Opposition and for introducing the name of the Speaker in the debate. The necessity for some measure of reform, he foresaw great difficulties from placing the power of the *clature* in the hands of a bare majority. The Speaker, he thought, ought to have some indication by which to interpret the evident sense of the House, and he was not prepared to see that the weapon might be turned against them.

On the motion of Mr. Bessford-Hope, the debate was adjourned.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at 7 o'clock.

THE CHARGES AGAINST LORD HUNTLY.

Lord Huntly, accompanied by Inspector Swatton, of the Criminal Investigation Department, Scotland-yard, attended at the Bow-street Police Court on Tuesday, his lordship having surrendered himself at Scotland-yard the same morning. He was described on the charge-sheet as Charles Gordon, Marquis of Huntly, aged 45, and was charged with obtaining the sum of £2,000 from Mr. Gardiner by means of false pretences. Sergeant Ballantine, who appeared for the defence, asked that the case might be taken as soon as possible for the convenience of those concerned. The court arranged to take it on Monday afternoon next, and was charged with obtaining the sum of £2,000 from Mr. Gardiner by means of false pretences. Sergeant Ballantine, who appeared for the defence, asked that the case might be taken as soon as possible for the convenience of those concerned. The court arranged to take it on Monday afternoon next, and was charged with obtaining the sum of £2,000 from Mr. Gardiner by means of false pretences.

Sergeant Ballantine, in addressing Sir James Ingham, said that he thought it was unnecessary to call special attention to the matter, as he (the magistrate) had had under his consideration a short time ago, when an information was laid against Lord Huntly upon certain allegations with reference to the authorities at Scotland-yard that he would surrender himself there immediately on his arrival. After consideration it had been thought fit to issue a summons. He (Sergeant Ballantine) was now present with Lord Huntly to answer the charge, and he pointed out that it was due to his lordship that it should be mentioned when he left England, which he did with a view of leaving the arrangement of certain matters to his friends, he had no notion that a criminal charge could be suggested against him. His lordship had had such a proceeding was when he was in Albania, and in a part of the country where the extradition treaty does not apply. 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THE REFORM CLUB.—A meeting of members of the House of Commons who are also members of the Reform Club was held on Tuesday in one of the committee rooms of the House to consider the recent blackballing at the

PRICE 40 CENTS

Newman, who stood by, kept shouting "pull over," and at once called for some planks, with which he proceeded to shore up the side of the box, merely remarking that he thought the elephant would get tired of this game in first. "About the same time," police men were further reinforced by some men under Mr. Superintendent Harris, who had been specially detailed for duty by the Chief Commissioner, to act as an escort in case of trouble. The crowd, however, which had been threatened, special police had also been stationed all along the line of route. Shortly before half-past twelve a fresh team of eleven horses, arrived at the Gardens, round the gates of which a large throng was still gathered. The elephant, while he had been waiting for the procession to start, had been exhibiting this conduct that he had thrown the bones off the wooden checks on which it had been placed. The result of this was that it had to be dug out and jacked up, and a start was made some minutes past one. A tremendous rush was made by the crowd.

PRICE 40 CENTS

If anybody can understand or otherwise make sense his way to understand the difference between "acts of violence of the gravest character," and "a thrashing;" can reconcile the reputed answer of the Baron with the allegation that no insult was applied to Englishmen in general or can see what bush-burner Gregory Goldsmith, Colvin, and Co. to pronounce on Oliphant's character. I rather like Oliphant. I also like Baron. As for the rest they look to me like a very queer lot.

The Salisbury Club was very near being burnt to the ground last week. A fire broke out in the dining-servicing room that separates the two drawing-rooms, and was not discovered until it had rapidly destroyed the floors. Had the fire occurred at night instead of in the day-time, as it did, there would have been little doubt as to the result.

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Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 25—26, 1882.

THE DEBATE ON THE CLOTURE.

The Saturday Review commenting on the various speeches made during the debates on the *cloture*, says that the speeches of Lord Hartington and Sir William Harcourt had the merit of placing before the House, as distinctly as it could be placed, that the use of the *cloture* was to enable a Liberal Ministry to get through its business in the way it liked. "With Lord Hartington the question of the *cloture* is altogether and necessarily a party question, for the use of the *cloture* is to do something for one party which the other party does not wish to have in its turn done for it. The impartiality of the Speaker is a topic of idle discussion, for the business of the Speaker will be to register the decrees of a Liberal majority. When the Conservatives are in a majority, the functions of the Speaker with regard to the *cloture* will be in abeyance; for, as it is assumed that the Conservatives never wish to do anything, therefore the occasion can never arise when they are not allowed to do something. The use of the *cloture* in Lord Hartington's eyes is not to achieve such a trumping purpose as that of converting a month's debate into a three weeks' debate. It is to be an engine always applicable and continually used for hurrying on all kinds of business. With the *cloture* Lord Hartington even undertook to put down bores. The Liberal leaders are to fix the limit of debate day after day, with the one limitation that the editors of provincial newspapers shall not think that the limit has been fixed in an arbitrary and tyrannical way. To the *cloture* in these its new clothes there are numberless objections of a national kind, such as that it would alter the whole character of the House, and alter it for the worse; that it would encourage faction, and that it would give increasing power to faction outside Parliament. But there are objections to it almost as strong from a purely Liberal point of view. The most serious objection of this kind is that the *cloture* could not work as it is intended to work. It would surely stir up from its origin a party spirit which it could not quell. To make the *cloture* triumph would become the object of one party, and to defeat the *cloture* would be the object of the other. In such a contest, those who seriously, persistently, and with an honest persuasion that they were doing right, set themselves to defeat the *cloture* could not fail to win. The only object of the *cloture* is to save time, and the time that could be legitimately spent in driving the Ministry to apply the *cloture* would greatly exceed the time which the *cloture* is supposed to save. And if the *cloture* were always being used, the position of the minority would become very unpleasant. The provincial editors would begin to howl and the autumn gatherings of provincial electors would be singularly lively. The Conservatives are bound to oppose Lord Hartington's kind of *cloture* as much as they can; but as merely a piece of party advantage, there is nothing probably that they would get the *cloture* and use it as Lord Hartington proposes."

The *Spectator* looks upon Lord Hartington's clear announcement that the present Government must stand or fall by its success or failure in passing the first resolution as the proper logical consequence of his previous position. If it be true that the time of the House of Commons belongs to the House of Commons, in trust for the nation, and not to the individual members who choose to make claims on it; if it be true that a portion of that time, and no insignificant portion, ought to be at the disposal of the Government of the day for the fulfilment of the legislative pledges which it has given to the country; then it must be the duty of the present Government to claim its responsibility for so ordering the appointment of its time by the present House that it may fulfil in this, the more urgent of these pledges which it has given to the country; whereas, without the *cloture* and without deciding the *cloture*, it is perfectly certain that it cannot fulfil any even of the most urgent of its pledges to the country.

The *Economist* contends that if whenever the Government believes that a subject has been sufficiently discussed, it must, before it can make that belief effective, take the leader of the Opposition into its confidence, and negotiate for his consent, it will no longer be answerable in the same sense as now for the conduct of public business. The support of the Opposition, if granted, would have, as a rule, to be purchased by concessions which it might be most embarrassing to make. If it were refused, the Government could, with a clear conscience, repudiate liability for the consequences. The principle which lies at the foundation of our parliamentary system—that power and responsibility go together, and that both belong to the party which is for the time being but a dominant majority—would be undermined, without any compensating disadvantage.

"PRINCE LEOPOLD'S APPANAGE."

In article under this head the *Spectator* discusses the principle of Parliamentary grants of money to Royal Princes. It says:—"The real argument for those grants, which ultimately, if explained as many orators could explain it, would convince the householders, is that, if they wish to

keep a Monarchy—as they do—and wish it to be an ornamental and outwardly dignified institution—as they do—they must enable Princes close to the Throne to live in the way in which men of their rank in Europe are accustomed to live. They are not servants of the State, but ornaments of the State, maintained in their position lest the Monarchy should incur any of the disrespect which falls on persons and people with incongruous surroundings. It comes, then, to this—that either the Royal House must accumulate wealth for itself, or that the country must grant its Princes adequate annuities. The first solution is perfectly possible. We have only to abolish the marriage law, and permit legacies to the Throne, and in thirty years the Royal Family will be richer than the Barings. But if that alternative is adopted, Parliament must lose, as Mr. Gladstone said, a control over the Princes which might become in conceivable circumstances most important, must express no anger if a Prince heads a bubble company, and register no opinion if he selects Miss Entrenchant in preference to the Vicar's daughter. The people will never agree to this, and if they adopt the second alternative, then they have only to discuss the amount that they will grant. What will the householders take as their principle in fixing the allowance? "That a Prince shall have as much as anybody." That would be twelve times what they give. That "he should have as much as an ordinary first-class Peer." That would be three times what they give. That "he should have as much as a first-class squire." That would be twice what they give, *vide* Domesday Book for Devon and Cornwall. The only principle they could suggest, is that "he should have as much as would enable him to live among the first, without visible derogation or unbecoming pecuniary shifts." That requires in the present world as it stands and spends £25,000 a year, which is just what the Prince receives. If the Throne is useless, or if it is not ornamental, then that money is wasted; but so would a guinea a week be. Appanages, to use the old word, are not offices, but sinecures, kept up to perfect the ornamental character of the Throne, and are exactly as defensible as the Throne—no more and no less. That argument does not cover the Court offices, because it is not clear that they are ever ornamental, and certainly during this secluded reign they have not been so, but it does cover the princes within a certain distance of succession. If they became very numerous a new question would arise, but it would be much better solved by striking them out of the succession altogether, than by compelling them to marry wealthy or turn dealers in tea or stocks. Those who oppose the grants think themselves, *par excellence*, Radicals, but in reality they are only expressing a preference for Dutch metal over gilding. Let them argue for plain brass, if they like, but not by rubbishy brummagem work, and make believe that it is splendid.

GERMANY AND RUSSIA.

The *Economist* points out that so little is known in England of the internal condition of Russia, that the very worst symptom in the condition of Eastern Europe has hitherto escaped notice. Continuing it says:—"We allude to the determined attempt to 'Russify' the exterior provinces of the Empire. This attempt is made so resolutely, and on such a scale, that it seems to us vain to doubt that it is most serious, or that the powerful party which is making it is indifferent whether a great war—a war of the very first magnitude—may not be its result. That the Czar himself is favourable to this policy seems to us, in spite of many rumours, most improbable. Sovereigns are rarely disposed to dislike obedient subjects, and the Czars of Russia have for centuries been surrounded with German courtiers and generals, wedded to German wives, and accustomed to rely on German advice. It is not likely, therefore, that they should suddenly betray a German feeling of the most acute kind, and in forms which must lead sooner or later to collision with the German Empire. This group is now believed to have mastered the Government, to have appointed General Ignatiev—who by himself is only of importance when his intelligence and audacity—and to have found a chief in the Grand Duke Vladimir, the strongest, if not the ablest, of the Romanoff family, and the trusted delegate of the Czar. Aided by the sympathy of the body of the people of the Panslav party, who are very 'Russian,' and of floating widely, in the mind of the Czar himself, they have mastered the Administration, and are carrying out very far-reaching ideas. They are supporting the Slavs everywhere, even down in Macedonia. They are favouring the Poles as Slavs, till Poland is the most lightly governed of all Russian provinces, and growing rapidly in wealth and in contentment. We are told that not only the old Russian jealousy of the Germans, which has been a feature in the history of the Empire for the past century, but that in the Baltic provinces, Courland, Livonia, and Esthonia, it is allowed to go lengths which are beginning to produce a large and conspicuous German emigration, or rather exodus. Our readers are doubtless aware of the rumour that Prince Bismarck has recently said that he is too much occupied in protecting the European peace to think of internal questions, and the story must represent the truth with some accuracy. He is not likely to have expressed himself quite so frankly, but it is certain that among his pre-occupation in the anti-German feeling breaking out in the provinces, and especially in her Baltic provinces, must be one of the most serious. If the exodus continues, or the alarm is intensified by a rising in a single large town, it will be most difficult to satisfy German feeling without steps that must lead, at no distant moment, to a dangerous and sanguinary war."

THE LATE HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW.

The following biographical notice of the poet Longfellow, whose death occurred on Friday, is taken from the *Daily Telegraph*:—"Henry Wadsworth Longfellow has passed away rather suddenly at the ripe old age of seventy-five, and with his decease ends the mental career of him who was pre-eminently the 'sweet singer' of America. At the date of his death, which took place yesterday, the poet had just entered on his seventy-sixth year, having been born on the 27th day of February, 1807. In appearance of what a poet ought to look like; a fine and majestic countenance, a high and broad forehead, with piercing eyes, wavy white locks and a flowing beard, the venerable old man was one of whom America was and is justly proud. He had been married twice, and will be remembered that his first wife died in a most tragic way, a shocking event, which is said to have deeply influenced and affected

the whole subsequent career of her husband. Mrs. Longfellow perished miserably, a martyr, in a sense, to her duties as a mother, for it was while she was engaged in soiling some wafers with burning sealing-wax for the benefit of her children that her dress was caught in the flames, resulting in her death very shortly after. But, on the whole, this master modern song has passed what our own Post-Laureate has described as "a life that lives melodious days." He has come through a healthy youth and honoured and useful manhood to a venerated old age, and dies, a hale patriarch, in the possession of the Royal House tax, and the title which Henry Wadsworth Longfellow occupies in English literature is decidedly bright, and he is almost as well known and as widely read in England as in the United States. His melodies are part of the national life on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, and it may be said of his poems what can be said of a few great writers, that his influence has been wholly good. He has never spoken with an uncertain sound on the great questions of faith, virtue, hope, and manliness. There is nothing morbidly self-conscious or unnaturally sensational in any one of his numerous works. Yet at the same time he holds a conspicuous throne in the hearts and minds of men because of the simple beauty of his sentiments and the majesty of his pure English diction. His honoured name is that of the first great American poet, the first who rose above the horizon of his own country, and shed his beams full-blown upon England and Europe. Since his earliest attempts at verse many Transatlantic poets have appeared, but even among such men as Whitman, and Whitman, and Lowell, Longfellow retains his pre-eminence and his position as the recognised national poet of America."

A complete list of Longfellow's works, in prose and verse, would constitute a somewhat lengthy catalogue. Yet the poet does not appear to have begun his serious poetical career at an unusually early age. He was born in the town of Portland in Maine, and was educated at Bowdoin College, in Brunswick, from which in 1825 he took his degree of Bachelor of Arts. His first literary work was a half-finished poem, "The Wreck of the Hesperus," for a short time after leaving his classical studies worked under paternal supervision in his father's office. Soon, however, he must have found the pursuit of legal lore un congenial to his disposition, and curiously enough was offered, even at the tender age of twenty, the Professorship of Modern Languages in the college in which he had himself been taught. This post he accepted, and immediately determined on a tour in Europe to prepare himself for the duties of his office. He spent three years and a half in Italy, and returned to fulfil his academic duties at Brunswick in 1829. Six years later we find him succeeding Mr. George Ticknor as Professor of Modern Languages and "Belles Lettres" in Harvard College, Cambridge. This, of course, was a most important position, and he held it with credit and to the glory of his name, in the pages of *The United States Literary Gazette*, for some of his earliest published work appeared in 1832. He published "Hyperion," another prose tale, in 1839. By that time he was fairly ensconced in his position at Harvard, and it was while there that he chiefly relieved the routine of his professional duties by writing poetry. In the last-mentioned year appeared the first volume of his "Voices of the Night," which he ever published, and which he called by the title of "Voices of the Night." Perhaps the earliest work of his which gained him any considerable degree of American favour was his romance of "Outre Mer." But when he assumed his exalted position as "Voices of the Night," he was recognised at once as a great poet. "Ballads and other Poems" followed in 1842; "Poems on Slavery" in 1843; a play called *The Spanish Student* in the same year; a book on the poetry of Europe, and it was not till 1847 that the most celebrated of all his works saw the light—"Evangeline." This spirited and picturesque idyll of country life, as it existed in the times of the Pilgrim Fathers, is written in hexameters, an experiment which had the courage to follow. Shortly after this masterpiece of the poet there appeared from the same pen "The Golden Legend" and "The Song of Hiawatha." "Miles Standish" was published in 1858, and affords an excellent example of Longfellow's power in the English language. In the same year, 1858, he published a volume of verse, which is never uninteresting and always tinged with the beauty of imagination and romance. Then came "Tales of a Wayside Inn," and in 1868 a translation of Dante in three volumes showed the ceaseless mental activity of the remarkable man. His last work was marked by a further work, "New England Tragedies," and in 1872 he wrote "The Divine Tragedy," and "Three Books of Song." "Aftermath" was the product of 1874, and "The Masque of Pandora" and "Keramos" are among his latest work. New and complete editions of his works were republished in 1869. In Great Britain he has been a steady favourite, and many of his works have been translated into foreign languages.

Longfellow's last visit to England was in 1868-9. He had paid a visit in 1842 also, but in the latter year he was recalled in consequence of a quarrel with the University of Cambridge, who had refused to grant him the title of D.D., and Oxford made him a Doctor of Civil Law, while the heartiest applause greeted the appearance of the lion-like old bard at both our seats of learning. In 1873 he was elected a member of the Académie des Sciences, and in 1877 a member of the Spanish Academy. At the time of his death he was for the second time a widower. He resigned his Harvard Professorship in 1854, and since that time lived a quiet, tranquil life in his country retreat. The poems which will undoubtedly constitute his enduring title to immortality are the longer poems, "Evangeline" and "Hiawatha," and such gems of verse as "Excelsior," "The Village Blacksmith," "The Wreck of the Hesperus," "The Psalm of Life," and "The Light of Stars." Among ourselves he is a household name. "Thousands who do not know a single fact about his life, or even whether he is an Englishman or an American, yet know by heart the strong and simple melodies which have struck such deep roots into our language. As long as that language lasts his works will be quoted by critics as models of simplicity and purity of thought, and they will probably also enjoy the higher immortality of an enduring place in the affections and memory of the people. The man who wrote the splendid lines, 'Life is real, life is earnest. And the grave is not its goal,' has left indelible a name that will live on of time." He has appeared "with his sickle on his brow," and has taken from America her greatest literary son—not, however, until after a protracted life of high industry and usefulness.

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

In the House of Lords on Friday, Lord CAMDEN moved that, in future, the sittings of the Lords for the transaction of public business should commence at four o'clock instead of five. Lord Middleton seconded the motion; and Earl Granville gave his assent to it, being of opinion that it would be advantageous to meet at an earlier hour. The Lord Chancellor said he had no objection to try the experiment, but suggested that the hour for meeting should be a quarter-past four, and that neither the Lord Chancellor nor the Chairman of Committees should be required to attend at the earlier hour. Lord Salisbury said he was not prepared to stand in the way of the proposed change. The motion having been amended as suggested by the Lord Chancellor, was then agreed to, but it was understood that the alteration should not come into operation until after the Easter recess.

In the Commons on Friday Mr. LABOURER presented a petition from Northampton respecting the right of Mr. Bradlaugh to take his seat, and praying to be heard by counsel in support of the petition at the bar of the House. Subsequently, in reply to Mr. Bradlaugh, the Speaker stated that it would not be in order to move for a new writ for the borough of Northampton, in the room of Mr. Bradlaugh, as a matter of privilege. The object of the hon. member, he said, was obviously not seriously to create a vacancy, but to raise a question of privilege. Mr. Bradlaugh gave notice that on an early day he would move that the electors of Northampton should be heard, according to the prayer of their petition; and Mr. Labouchere, on his part, also gave notice that on Tuesday he would move that the petition be printed with the report of the Committee. Mr. Bradlaugh then gave notice that four weeks hence he would move an address praying for the release of all persons now in prison under the Corn Law Act. Mr. Healy excited a laugh by intimating that he would oppose the motion, and soon after the motion was made for going into Committee on Supply.

Mr. Ritchie then moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the effects which the tariffs in foreign countries had upon the principal branches of British trade and commerce, and into the possibility of removing by legislation or otherwise any impediment to the fuller development of our commercial industry. In a speech of considerable length, weighty in argument, and elaborate in statistical references, the hon. member presented his motion to the House, and stated that he was not a Protectionist, but of the opinion that we should shape our commercial policy with a special regard to the interests, leaving the exports to take care of themselves. Protectionist views in respect to manufacturing industries are discredited, but of the existence of evils that demanded inquiry he was thoroughly convinced. Even the Government, he added, were without confidence in their own principles, a fact that was shown by their efforts to get a treaty with France—a treaty which would not only remove the form of reciprocity. Mr. Cartwright followed in opposition to the motion, his speech being characterised as nonsense by Mr. Milner who in turn brought up Sir Charles Dilke with the accusation that Mr. Ritchie, though not absolutely hinting at a policy of retaliation, laid himself open to the charge of being a Protectionist leaning in the application of his arguments. Mr. Staveley Hill, judicial and temperate, then sustained the discussion in the fair trade vein, being succeeded by Sir John Lubbock, who held that the appointment of a committee would of itself imply a doubt on the part of the Government, and that therefore it would have the opposite effect of commending Free Trade principles to foreign countries. The injurious and limiting effects of foreign tariffs on our own productive industries were next descended upon by Mr. Eckroyd in most effective speech, in the course of which he enlarged upon the importance of commercial union between Great Britain and her colonies and dependencies. Mr. Chamberlain then replied on the part of the Government, stating that they could not accede to the appointment of a committee, which would be a foreign opinion as to our commercial policy, and he aimed at no definite object, as the facts were already within grasp, and it was the arguments only that called for discussion. "One-sided Free Trade," as it was called, was, he held, the best thing for us, and he believed that universal Free Trade would be the best for the world at large. The refusal of the Government to accept the motion was commented upon by Sir S. Northcote, who ably defended himself from charges of inconsistency brought against him in reply to Mr. Chamberlain in respect to his support of the motion. The failure of the French treaty negotiations in particular had, he held, made a great difference in our position. He was now as firmly convinced of the general principles of Free Trade as ever was, but he did not think that the very success of the negotiations would result that the Government apprehended. Their conduct, in fact, seemed to be guided by a belief that Free Trade was either so sacred or so fragile that it could not be looked into, and for his own part, he believed that many points of detail might arise, but he would not discuss them. To these views Mr. Gladstone rather energetically replied, reiterating the view that Mr. Chamberlain had expressed as to the mere fact of an inquiry being ordered being calculated to create a wrong impression both at home and abroad. Mr. O'Donnell having expressed the belief that the motion would be carried, the subject was put down for discussion first in the Civil Service Estimates. A motion to report progress having been made by Mr. A. O'Connor, Mr. Healy, in supporting it, asserted that the Irish members intended to sicken the Government with Ireland, and to discuss Irish affairs in season and out of season. After a further fusillade from the Par-

liament benches, Lord Hartington said that he could hardly believe that any member would resist a vote which was absolutely necessary for the business of the country. Mr. A. O'Connor had asked him to distinguish in the vote as to the items that were absolutely necessary and those that were not; but this he declined to do, being determined to take the vote as a whole. Mr. Justin McCarthy urged that the action of Irish members was perfectly reasonable, as there were several questions that they wished to raise which they regarded as of vital importance; but Mr. Selator Booth expressed a hope that Lord Hartington would persist in the determination he had come to not to distinguish between the items of the vote.

It was now past three o'clock, but the Parliament continued obdurate. Mr. Healy even suggesting that the motion for progress should be withdrawn, and they should proceed with the discussion of the vote in its entirety. In reply to Sir Richard Cross, Lord Hartington assured the committee that opportunity for the discussion of the various points to be raised would be given. Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Barry followed in threatening mood, the latter going so far as to declare that he would put every obstacle in the way to prevent the supply of money, even on account, for the present barbarous and cowardly system of government in Ireland. Mr. Biggar next added his useful accents to the discussion, requesting the Government to undertake before the *cloture* was passed that they would give full opportunity for the discussion of the Irish estimates. Mr. T. D. Sullivan following, gave little hope to the Government that he or his colleagues would be likely to retreat from the position they had taken. Hon. members began to realise that there was a prospect of obstruction being prolonged far into daylight, and a few retired to seek rest in the ante-rooms. The Treasury bench, however, was fully occupied, and amongst the occupants of the Opposition benches were Mr. W. H. Smith, Sir R. Cross, Mr. Selator Booth, Mr. Gibson, Sir M. Hicks-Beach, and Mr. Talbot.

Mr. Sexton said that he was not disposed to push the committee to extremes, but to push the Government to support the motion in his part in whatever way, and to whatever extent they opposed the vote, which he regarded as a compendium to misgovernment. Mr. Gibson, not professing to be acquainted with the mysteries of supply, asked whether it would be possible to put any of the items likely to lead to special discussion first amongst the items of supply in their future consideration. Lord F. Cavendish said that he did not think that the Government would consult the convenience of hon. members themselves by going any further than they had done. Mr. O'Donnell said that under the circumstances the members of the Government had better make up their minds to take the discussion on the items now.

Mr. Meigs said that so far as he was able to see, the vote, and the *cloture* next, Irish members would only be discharging their duty, and the spectacle would be one for Europe and the world to look upon. Lord Hartington offered as a means of meeting the wishes of Irish members that they should take a morning sitting on Tuesday for the purpose of the discussion.

Mr. A. O'Connor said that it was little else than laughing at the Irish members to make such an offer. They fully appreciated its littleness, but under the circumstances, if his friends were agreeable, he would withdraw his motion. Mr. McCarthy said he agreed with his colleagues as to the smallness of the proposal, but under the circumstances they would accept it.

Mr. Biggar said that he scarcely thought that the morning sitting would suffice for the whole of the discussion.

The motion to report progress was then withdrawn, as well as the amendment, which had been moved by Lord George Hamilton. The vote was then agreed to, and the Partnerships Bill having been read a second time, the House rose at five minutes past four.

COL. BURNABY'S BALLOON JOURNEY.

At a meeting of the Balloon Society of Great Britain on Friday morning reference was made to the trip of Colonel Burnaby, which, the president said, "I am exceedingly pleased to be able to state that I have received the following telegram:—'Chateau de Montigny, Normandy.—Colonel Burnaby descended in the balloon 'Eclipse' in a meadow near the town of six miles from Caen. A number of persons witnessed the arrival of the aeronaut, who has been looked for all along the coast. The Colonel was loudly cheered and received a hearty welcome.' (Cheers.) Mr. Le Ferre said he had a second telegram from a friend of his who resides near the spot, and who had the pleasure of conversing with the gallant Colonel, who said the 'Eclipse' behaved splendidly. 'Passed over Boulogne at noon, and proceeded in a South-south-westerly direction. Threw out more ballast, in order to find a current, possibly, to take me on to the coast. The wind changed at a few minutes to two o'clock, still proceeding south-west. Wind chopped round, and became becalmed in the Channel. Again threw out ballast, of which I had taken the precaution to have plenty, and, providentially getting into a favourable current, was carried westward to Chateau de Montigny, having been about eight hours in the air.' Colonel Burnaby states that after having drifted out to sea he safely landed near Caen on the Normandy coast at five o'clock on Thursday afternoon. Caen is situated about 100 miles from the coast, in a south-westerly direction from Tréport (Seine-Inférieure), over which he passed at 2 p.m. It would thus appear that the balloon had throughout been travelling to the south-west, with an increased westerly tendency at the conclusion of the voyage. The distance travelled by Colonel Burnaby, supposing he had proceeded in a straight line to Caen, would be about 250 miles, and the rate at which he proceeded would have been about 30 miles per hour. Colonel Burnaby has also sent the following message to Mr. Wright, the owner of the balloon:—"Your balloon was carried westward, and was eventually found southerly current at high altitude; descended Chateau de Montigny, Normandy. Voyage difficult, but very amusing." Col. Burnaby arrived in London on Saturday.

At a meeting of the Balloon Society of Great Britain, held on Friday, at the Royal Aquarium, a vote of thanks and congratulations was given to Colonel Burnaby for his "gallant and successful attempt to cross the Channel unaided and unaccompanied." The president, Mr. Lefevre, in proposing the vote, said that Col. Burnaby had set with him for several years on the council of the Aeronautical Society, and was not a novice at ballooning. He held, what the speaker had always held, that to succeed it was necessary to cross at a high altitude, and the failure of the last attempt was caused by keeping too low, and by being too heavily weighted. Colonel Burnaby's balloon was a light one, made of silk and calico, and he started nearer to the shore, and at once attained a high altitude. On nearing the French coast, and he began to drift back to sea, but rising to a high altitude he retraced his steps and descended in Normandy. He believed the trip would prove valuable, as Col. Burnaby would be able on his return to state what currents he had met with at the different altitudes, and verify the experiences of other aeronauts as to the effect of large bodies of water on aerial currents. The Rev. E. Burnaby thanked the meeting for the compliment

paid to his brother, who would, he hoped, be present at the next meeting to relate his experiences, and it was announced that on April 12 an attempt would be made to cross the Channel from Westward Ho! under the guidance of Mr. Simons, in the balloon used by Col. Brine. The width of the Channel at this point is about 80 miles.

The *Standard* says that the one thing to be apprehended in regard to such voyages as that of Colonel Burnaby will be not in the fact that various foolish people will try to imitate him, but in the influence which it will have on the more ambitious aeronauts, who will struggle to surpass his feat. Aerial vessels will, no doubt, before long play an important part in war and exploration. But to fly across the Channel or the Atlantic will in no degree expedite their utilization for such purposes.

The *Morning Post* remarks that after the lamentable death of Mr. Powell and the recent failure of Colonel Brine, it would hardly be expected that a colonel commanding the Blues, married, and with a young family, would address himself to such a wild and risky enterprise as embarking in a balloon alone, and unaided, to peril his life in an attempt to cross the Channel at this shift of the equinox. Some called it folly, all acknowledged it to be plucky. It is one more proof that the spirit of adventure is not dead among us; that Englishmen are still ready for deeds of daring; that without prospect of Victoria Cross, or even of public approval, men are always forthcoming in England to defy danger, as it were, for danger's sake.

The *Daily Telegraph* suggests that if human invention ever does compass the achievement of mechanical flight through the air without the aid of gas, of which, as we are well-informed mathematicians or engineers despair, the generation that flies will certainly not speak with disrespect or ingratitude of pioneers who, like Colonel Burnaby, have first invaded the realms of space. They will, on the contrary, be regarded by posterity with honour, like the earliest voyagers, whose triumphs and catastrophes such valuable human lessons were learned, and perhaps the Colonel's journey through cloudland will be one of the stories related as a proof that the nineteenth century only wanted ideas, not, pluck, to put it in possession of "the way of an eagle in the air."

VANITY FAIRINGS.

A very amusing story reaches me from Cairo. A Grenadier Guardsman, dining at the *table d'hôte* at Shepherd's hotel, perpetrated some harmless tomfoolery with a *fez*. Thereupon a German Baron, who held that the Egyptian Prince, his host, was insulted, demanded of the Grenadier either an apology or satisfaction by arms. The Grenadier explained that he had been merely fooling, and very promptly apologised. In the evening however Baron d'Atzel, an Austrian, gratified the Grenadier with the information, as ascertained, that the "poltroon" for having acted as he had done. Now the Grenadier's education, being only such as would fit him for the Guards, did not include a knowledge of French, and he probably therefore supposed that the Baron was paying him a compliment. The Baron, however, was not so easily deceived, and he had been previously informed by Lord Mallet (who does understand the foreign lingo) of what he had done. Sir Edward thereupon assembled a Court of Honour which promptly decided that everybody was either right or could easily be set right. But the Baron had his own way. He went to a Club and there saw the Grenadier. He thereupon pointedly asked the Club waiter whether he (the waiter) allowed a man who had been publicly stigmatised as a coward and a poltroon to sit down in that Club. The waiter referred to the rules and didn't know, on the theory that the all-Englishmen were or were not something or other and did or did not do something or other. This time the Grenadier—who had possibly learnt foreign tongues meantime—seems to have understood that there was something wrong, for he is reported to have said that but for the Court of Honour he would have whopped the Baron.

And now Mr. Oliphant (not Laurence Oliphant, who is elsewhere) came upon the scene. He apparently cares for no Courts of Honour, for he went for the Baron and asked him whether he meant to say that Englishmen were cowards. The Baron replied "Yes," whereupon Mr. Oliphant smote the Baron with his fist so that he saw many stars. Then the Baron challenged the Oliphant; but the Oliphant said he would see him somewhere first, and threatened to begin again if he was at all worsted or in want of exercise. Then a cry went up to the gods of war and diplomacy. Gregory, P.C., and Goldsmid, C.B., and Colvin, K.C.M.G., and Money, and Dicey, and Smart assembled in their majesty and consulted and decided. First they decided that the Baron's conduct was an affront, and that the Oliphant intervened in an affair that didn't concern him, and had committed on the person of Baron d'Atzel acts of violence of the gravest character; that Oliphant was without excuse; that the Baron had conducted himself like a perfect gentleman; and that the Oliphant refused the reparation demanded, the Baron's honour was not in the least affected. Then they decided that the assertion that a thrashing was given to the Baron was false. Then they sent it all to the newspapers. If anybody—man of honour or otherwise—can see his way to understand the difference between "acts of violence of the gravest character," and "a thrashing," can reconcile the reputed answer of the Baron with the allegation that no insult was applied to Englishmen, or can see what the difference was it was Gregory, Goldsmid, Colvin, and Co. to pronounce on Oliphant, I envy his perspicacity. I rather like Oliphant. I also like Baron. As for the rest they look to me like a very queer lot.

The Salisbury Club was very near being burnt to the ground last week. A fire broke out in the small serving-room, that separates the two drawing-rooms, and was not discovered until it had nearly destroyed two doors. Had the fire occurred at night instead of in the day-time, as it did, there would have been a loss of life as to the result. The ladies complain of the Salisbury that there is too much propriety; whereas the members complain that there is too much of the propriety.

The addresses to the Queen on the Maclean incident continue to arrive. There are now nearly 600 such addresses lying at the Home Office, and they are only just beginning to come in. Between 4,000 and 5,000 are expected, this having been the number on the last similar occasion.

All addresses to the Queen are read at the Home Office before being sent on, for fear they should contain anything likely to offend, and then they are despatched in *sacks* to Windsor. Edinburgh and Dublin have the right to present directly to the Throne, and they have claimed it now. Sir W. Harcourt (hoping to settle the claim, but dropping the ordinary stereotyped reply—"But the Queen declined to take the hint, and press their claim.")

The Queen sometimes keeps one or two of the best illuminated addresses; the rest are returned to the Home Office. Their subsequent career I won't trace, for fear of treading upon the toes of the Corporations. Those presented by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge have their seals attached. The seals (as large as a man's hand) are encased in silver boxes.

I hear that Lord Carington, in his capacity as Captain of her Majesty's Body-guard, has asked the Lord Mayor to dine with the corps at an early date, and that the latter magnate has been graciously pleased to accept the in-

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Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 26-27, 1882.

THE EMPERORS OF AUSTRIA AND RUSSIA.

The announcement is again made that a meeting will shortly take place between the Emperors of Austria and Russia. We have reason for thinking that a personal exchange of views between the two Rulers is, in fact, under discussion, and the probabilities are in favour of the meeting taking place, though the present visit of the Grand Duke Vladimir to Vienna is not directly concerned with the project. Both the place and the time of the interview are uncertain. It may precede or it may follow the return visit of the Kaiser Francis Joseph to the King of Italy—which is now definitely decided on—and the spot chosen may be "on the frontier of the two Empires," or, there is some reason to believe, even Moscow itself. In the latter case the conference will coincide with the Coronation of the Czar. There is a strong feeling at the Austrian Court that it would be well for the Emperor to be present at this solemnity. The ceremony cannot be long delayed, but its date, if actually fixed, has not been publicly proclaimed. The Foreign Ambassadors to the Russian Court have received a notification to hold themselves in readiness for the event, and the only reason why the precise day is not given out is the fear which possesses the Russian Government lest the Nihilists should occupy the interval with preparations to signalise the occasion by an outrage like that whose record stains the 13th of last March. When the Austrian Emperor has paid his visits to King Humbert and to Alexander III., the world will have been informed in as dramatic a shape as the circumstances allow that there exists at present a sentiment of mutual amiability between Germany and Austria on the one hand, and Italy and Russia on the other. Few persons can make the mistake of supposing that either of these meetings will involve any sort of modification in the character of the Austro-German Alliance. That international compact is, as we have repeatedly pointed out, the chief guarantee for the peace of Europe. On many accounts, it is both impossible and undesirable that any other Power should be formally admitted into it. Such a step would throw a certain amount of doubt upon its sincerity and reality. The interests of Austria and Germany are manifestly identical; the separate interests of Austria, Germany, Russia, and Italy notoriously are not. The power of the Alliance as an agency of peace could not fail to be weakened by the sense of misgiving which any attempt artificially to make it more comprehensive would create. There is, moreover, a large and influential section in Austria and Russia that would resent the step. Count Kalnoy, the Austro-Hungarian Minister, is personally well disposed towards Russia, and is on friendly terms with General Ignatieff, the real Premier of the Russian Empire, and with Baron de Giers. But they have each of them to consult the public sentiment of their country. The Revolutionary party in Russia is enthusiastic for war at any cost with Austria or Germany—singly, or with both combined. The results of such a struggle would probably—almost inevitably—as they are well aware, be disastrous; but they would discredit the Imperial Government, and they might form the prelude to a new order of things. General Ignatieff has been before now, and may yet be again, the friend of his country. He has, as the chiefs of the Revolution, and he is exerting it in favour of peace at the present moment. If we turn to Austria, every person family with that complex organisation knows that, speaking roughly, the dislike entertained for it is real and widespread, though it is not very deep. These are not the conditions under which any good could be done by a formal invitation, on the part of Germany and Austria, to Russia to enter into a new diplomatic Convention. National opinion would be exasperated rather than reconciled or reassured by such an arrangement. The Austro-German Alliance is a factor of stable value in the affairs of the South-east of Europe, because the two German Empires are not, and cannot be, rivals in that part of the world. Between Russia and Austria, everyone knows the bitterest rivalry exists in the Balkan Peninsula, and must continue to exist. Their competing claims come into conflict at every turn, and the question of pre-eminence in the Danubian Principalities is one which must ultimately be decided between them.—Standard.

THE PROSPECT OF WAR.

It is not unknown at St. Petersburg that during the past year no fewer than thirty-four battalions of infantry and many batteries have been added to the German army, and that fresh methods of development and training the reserves have been adopted. The entire German force available for war is now much vaster than it has ever been at any previous period; and, although the extension of military means must have been produced with some regard to France, it is equally certain that the possibility of difficulties with the Northern Court were not omitted from the calculations made in Berlin. Russia has a far larger population than Germany, but her resources are not equally handy, nor are those readily available put to so skillful a use. If the Austrian troops are added to the German, the total may be

counted by millions, and there is no doubt that even the most reckless of generals becomes duly impressed by such grim facts when making an estimate of chances in his study. Nevertheless, the deep-seated influences which ever tend to excite a collision between these mighty nations remain in full force. Beyond the Vistula and the Pruth there are at least fifty millions of human beings having the same nationality and a common faith. No other country in Europe presents a like phenomenon. For a century and a half they have successfully invaded and subjugated their neighbours on all sides, and for half a century they have been moved by a strong ambition to create an overwhelming Slav Empire. The tendency to make the acquired peoples Russian was natural and inevitable. There is no novelty in the reported acceleration of effort to eliminate or subdue the German element in the Baltic provinces, for the process has been at work during the last fifty years. If the Poles are still hostile at heart, they are obedient, and their country, occupied by Russian armies and fortresses, overhangs and menaces the frontiers of Germany and Austria. In the South the question always has been and will be—Who shall dominate the Danubian valley? and thus from the Baltic to the Black Sea the whole line swarms with possible objects of contention between the West and the North. By recent territorial arrangements it is hoped that an effectual curb has been put on the tendency of Russia towards the Mediterranean. Yet it should not be forgotten that as these small states, kingdoms, principedoms, and tributary provinces cannot stand safely by themselves they are necessarily brought more or less or wholly under the influence of the great adjacent Powers. The regions they inhabit have for ages been the battlefields of rival empires, and there is as yet no reason to believe that they have escaped from this misfortune.

Germany and Austria, indeed, might be quite content to see the Danubian States grow in strength and prosperity, but their satisfaction would be a death-blow to Russian hopes and the frustration of Russian aims. Looking to the broad facts presented by Continental affairs, it may be assumed that the possibilities of a great war are deferred, but in no wise removed, and that they have been increased since a disruptive policy was initiated in 1875. A sentence attributed to Prince Bismarck has recently attracted much attention. He is reported to have said that he could not think about domestic concerns, because his time was occupied in maintaining the peace of Europe. If he really made the observation, it would prove distinctly the chances of disturbance were greater than they appear to be on the surface. He, at all events, is not likely to nourish a fond belief that his country can afford to dispense with a foreign policy, nor is he above his duty as the guardian of German interests. That he must desire peace is evident from the fact that the Empire he so actively helped to create still requires time for complete consolidation and thorough internal equipment. Yet he never ignores the perils which beset the great Central State, and does not disdain to safeguard her by bold acts of policy. Among these was that alliance with Austria which thwarted more than one profound scheme, and another was the extension of help to Turkey when her old allies, who have an equal interest in the Straits, threw the weight of their moral influence into the scale of the Slavs.—Daily Telegraph.

FASHIONABLE INTELLIGENCE.

The Prince of Wales was present at a meeting of the members of the Standing Committee of the British Museum on Saturday evening. The Earl of Derby and Lady Margaret Cecil returning to St. James's-square on Saturday evening at Manchester. Earl Percy, M.P., had a parliamentary dinner on Saturday evening at his house, in Grosvenor-square, when the following noblemen and gentlemen were present:—Earl Waldegrave, Viscount Lovelock, Lord Brooke, Lord Alington, Percy, Lieutenant-Colonel Hon. L. P. Dawson, the Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks Beach, Sir James M. Gorell, Sir Richard Wallace, Major-General Lord of St. John, Mr. J. T. Salway, Mr. H. S. Northcote, Mr. J. Watson, Mr. C. N. Norton, Mr. G. Storer, Mr. J. D. Dixon-Hartland, Mr. T. Collins, Mr. W. Biddell, and Mr. W. E. Brymer. The day-guests of Wilton have arrived in Grosvenor-square from Heaton Hall. Lord and Lady Rolfe and Hon. Misses Rolfe left on Saturday for their residence at Ryde, Isle of Wight. The Lady Evelyn have left St. James's-place for the Isle of Wight. The Baron and Baroness De Stora are staying at the Queen's Hotel, Upper Norwood.

SEVERE GALE AND LOSS OF LIFE.

A violent gale prevailed on Saturday night and Sunday morning in the southern and western districts of England and in the Channel. London and its suburbs were visited by a gale of wind, accompanied by hail, snow, and torrents of rain. In the northern districts many of the streets were flooded. In some houses the roofs were strong was the wind that several windows were blown in. In Highgate and Hampstead many large trees were uprooted, and other damage was done. A few casualties are reported, but none of a serious character. Early on Sunday morning, during a furious wind from the north-west, a large schooner-armed steamer, outward bound, was seen to founder off Bull Point. A three-masted brigantine passing sailed over the spot for a considerable time, and the Iffracombe life boat Broadwater was quickly manned and put off. About a mile from Capstone she passed the steamer's boat bottom upwards, and shortly afterwards picked up a man in a life buoy, the latter being marked "Uriah, Salcombe." The usual restoratives were applied, but failed to resuscitate life. Three other life-buoys marked "S. S. Pelton, Newcastle," were picked up by the life boat and tug steamer *Gloster*. The *Broadwater* found no more bodies. It has since been ascertained that the *Pelton* was 517 tons register, and belonged to Messrs. Joseph Reay, of Gateshead, and carried a crew of about 18 men. The Shipwrecked Mariners' Society's medal was found on the body of the man. Brighton was visited by a north-westerly gale of great severity on Saturday night, and as the morning dawned the wind increased. The damage to property was very great, and loss of life also occurred. Shortly before 7 o'clock chimney stacks blew down at two houses in Whitcross-street, and passed through the roofs into the bed-rooms in which persons were sleeping, but no injury was received. Soon after seven a roof was forced in by the wind at a house in Lower Market-street, and the chimney stack fell almost simultaneously. A lady 73 years of age named Harriet Marsh, who was lying in bed, was killed instantaneously, she being struck by a heavy beam as well as being covered by other debris. The stack fell with such force that portions of it, as well as a quantity of

furniture, were forced through the floor of the room in which the woman lay, and into a room beneath, where a man and his wife were sleeping. It was with great difficulty that they were extricated from the ruins, but neither of them sustained injury. At the residence of Capt. Sanderson a large stack of chimneys was blown down, and these knocked down a wall and carried several tons of bricks and mortar with them into the road. The end of a large barn at Hove was forced outwards by the pressure on the roof, and a quantity of sheddling in a brickyard was lifted and carried across the road into a field on the opposite side of the way. Bathing machines left on the beach were driven into the sea, and a heavy boat was turned completely over. At Chichester a large wooden building, 15 yards long for nearly two miles, the People's Park, was lifted up bodily to a height of about 20 feet, and carried over the hedge into the St. Pancras burial-ground, where it fell on its roof and jammed tightly between a hedge and a tree.

A message from Dover, dated Sunday night, says:—"A terrible and protracted north-westerly gale has prevailed here to-day, the first indications of which were noticed at an early hour this morning. The violence of the storm gradually developed until about nine o'clock this morning, when the wind blew with very great force, and continued to do so for nearly two hours. Since then it has abated a little, but is still blowing heavily. Rain has fallen occasionally during the day. With the wind in a northerly direction the sea on this part of the coast is comparatively sheltered, and forms a good roadstead for ships; otherwise the gale would have resulted in much more serious damage, as it is regarded as the heaviest storm which has visited this part of the coast since the occasion when a large portion of the Admiralty Pier was washed away. One narrow escape, however, occurred in the case of a steamer, the *Albatross*, containing three or four men. She was being run in towards the shore this morning when she was caught in a squall; her situation became extremely critical, and great alarm was felt on shore by those who were watching her. Fortunately one of the two steamships happened to be coming in from a vessel in distress which she had been out to, and seeing the danger the boat was in, proceeded at once to her assistance. Considerable damage has been done on shore, the extent of which is not yet ascertained. Large number of chimneys pipes and tiles have been blown off in the town, and several large trees in Dover and the neighbourhood have been destroyed. Between Dover and Shoreham, on the South-Eastern railway, a number of down-train posts are reported to have been blown down, and until removed, together with the wires, were lying in confusion across the line. Telegraph communication is also interrupted. Six houses in course of construction, although situated on a high and level spot, have been partially blown down. Several vessels reporting damage are now entering the harbour. At an early hour on Sunday morning Port of Dover was visited by a fierce north-westerly gale, which did great damage to the town and the weather continued squally during the day, and the steamer from Portsmouth, which during the morning crossed to Ryde, had to return without landing her passengers, it being found impossible, owing to the heavy sea, to make a landing. The *Albatross* was running, to take her alongside the pier.

SERIOUS DISTURBANCES IN IRELAND.

The Press Association's Galway correspondent writes:—"Great excitement prevails here, owing to a quarrel between the 8th and 88th Regiments, which broke out on Saturday night. The men have been continually fighting. On Thursday night all the shops had to be closed. Pickets, with bayonets fixed, cleared the streets, and several men on both sides were wounded. On Friday night about one hundred men of the 88th Regiment attacked a picket of the 8th and shouted for 'Ireland.' The sergeant directed his men to charge, and they at once fell on the 88th, who had only belts and sticks. The men were driven back, and subsequently several of the men on each side were conveyed under escort to the hospital suffering from bayonet wounds. The civilians were kept quiet by policemen, who let the soldiers fight it out. About eight o'clock one hundred men of the 8th, under command of a lieutenant, with fixed bayonets, arrived, and were hooted and pelted by the crowd, who, but for the large force of police, would have taken the 88th by surprise. The town was in a state of alarm for about two hours. One man of the 88th received a wound in the chest, and is not expected to recover. Others were wounded in the arms and legs. Steps are being taken to have the soldiers confined to barracks.

A PARTY OF ARMED MEN SURPRISED ON FRIDAY MORNING AT DROMBANE, NEAR THURLES, WHILE ATTACKING THE HOUSE OF A FARMER NAMED RYAN, WHO WAS SUSPECTED OF HAVING PAID RANSOM.

They had wrecked the windows and discharged several shots, and the men were fired on by a police patrol in ambush, and one of them wounded. The others fled. The injured man, John Dyer, is the son of a farmer at Mealfilish. He is reported to be fatally wounded. The Irish Times, speaking of the encounter, says:—"The account which we publish of a struggle between Moonlighters and the constabulary at Drombane, near Thurles, reads like the report of a skirmish in actual battle. A nation of lawless houses, during a furious wind from the north-west, large schooner-armed steamer, outward bound, was seen to founder off Bull Point. A three-masted brigantine passing sailed over the spot for a considerable time, and the Iffracombe life boat Broadwater was quickly manned and put off. About a mile from Capstone she passed the steamer's boat bottom upwards, and shortly afterwards picked up a man in a life buoy, the latter being marked "Uriah, Salcombe." The usual restoratives were applied, but failed to resuscitate life. Three other life-buoys marked "S. S. Pelton, Newcastle," were picked up by the life boat and tug steamer *Gloster*. The *Broadwater* found no more bodies. It has since been ascertained that the *Pelton* was 517 tons register, and belonged to Messrs. Joseph Reay, of Gateshead, and carried a crew of about 18 men. The Shipwrecked Mariners' Society's medal was found on the body of the man. Brighton was visited by a north-westerly gale of great severity on Saturday night, and as the morning dawned the wind increased. The damage to property was very great, and loss of life also occurred. Shortly before 7 o'clock chimney stacks blew down at two houses in Whitcross-street, and passed through the roofs into the bed-rooms in which persons were sleeping, but no injury was received. Soon after seven a roof was forced in by the wind at a house in Lower Market-street, and the chimney stack fell almost simultaneously. A lady 73 years of age named Harriet Marsh, who was lying in bed, was killed instantaneously, she being struck by a heavy beam as well as being covered by other debris. The stack fell with such force that portions of it, as well as a quantity of

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

The latest instalment of Mr. Frodous' "Life of Carlyle" will be published by Messrs. Longman and Co. on the 31st inst. The work, which is complete in itself, consists of two octavo volumes, with two portraits and four views, all being etchings. It is, as we have before mentioned, a history of the first forty years of Carlyle's life, and it is said that it may almost be considered of the nature of an autobiography as it contains so much of Carlyle's own writing. Some very interesting letters from Goethe and Edward Irving will appear, but probably no letters will strike the reader more than those from the pen of Mrs. Thomas Carlyle.—*Athenaeum*.

Mr. Bogue promises the early issue of a volume by Mr. Howard Paul, entitled "Gleiver Things said by Children," and also of a series of sketches by Mrs. J. E. Pantou, which will appear as "Country Sketches in Black and White."

Mrs. Fawcett's "Political Economy for Beginners" is being translated into two of the native languages of India, Canarese and Marathi. Her "Tales in Political Economy" is also being translated into the latter language and into Swedish.

A new edition of Bishop Thirlwall's delightful "Letters to a Friend" will be brought out in the summer. It will contain some interesting additions, new letters being added, the previous edition being reprinted. It did not appear in the former edition.

Mrs. Mortimer Collins has a new novel in the press, entitled "A Broken Lily," which will be brought out in three volumes by Messrs. Blackett and in the course of next month.

Mr. D. Bogue will shortly bring out a cheap and revised edition of Mr. E. Walford's "Londoniana," with additional chapters.

The title of Mr. Hardy's new novel, the first part of which is to appear in the May number of the *Atlantic Monthly*, is to be "Two on a Tower."

A series of Holiday Handbooks, at the price of 3d. and 4d. each, will be published by Mr. Percy Lindley, to be issued by Messrs. Longman and Co. "A Trip to the Ardennes," and will appear immediately.

According to the *Academy* Messrs. Longman and Co. will publish, in April, volumes 3 and 4 of Lecky's "History of England in the Eighteenth Century." The volumes will embrace the period 1760-1780.

Mr. Robert Sewall, of the Madras Civil Service, is reported to have discovered the remains of another Buddhist temple on the banks of the Kistna. It is pronounced to be of a very early date, as early as the Bharhut type, in Central India, which dates from the second century B.C.

A volume containing the signatures of all who attended the farewell banquet to Lord Bramwell, on resigning his position as a Lord of the Treasury, and as a member of the House of Commons, will be published by Messrs. Longman and Co. It will also contain a pen and ink portrait of the noble lord in his judicial robes.

An interesting account of the prison life of Fedor Dostoevsky, the author of the Russian work recently translated into English under the title of "The Idiot," has been published in the newspaper *Kurkaz* by one of his companions in exile, of the name of Rojnovsky. It appears that Dostoevsky objected to complying with some of the regulations which the convicts are accustomed to respect, and he was accordingly sent to a solitary cell to lynch him, looking upon him as a coward who gave himself up. But one day he had the courage to make a complaint to the commandant about some official which had been placed in a fellow prisoner's food. The next day he was sent to the hospital, and severely that he could not leave the hospital for a fortnight. On his return he was at once hailed by his fellow convicts as a comrade, and one who had suffered for the common good. The same commandant caused him to be discharged again, and so severely that the time he lay ill in the hospital for a whole month. The fact of his having thus suffered lends an additional interest to those chapters of "The Idiot" which deal with the horrible subject of the lash.—*Athenaeum*.

The learned antiquary, Mr. Walter Rye, has purchased the Gaudy MSS., nearly 4,000 letters of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, which were bought in at the Gurney sale. He intends to publish in much the same way as Mr. Gairdner did the Paston letters, which will form practically a continuation of the latter letters so far as carrying on the social and local history of Norfolk is concerned.—*Athenaeum*.

Mr. Newth, at the last meeting of the Physical Society, showed experiments illustrative of the formation of fog. The fact that burning sulphur, and even platinum wire rendered incandescent by an electric current, gave off solid particles in sufficient quantity to produce a fog, leads to the inference that even with gas stoves fog will not be got rid of, though they may be a lighter colour than those caused by coal fires.

Nine massive Norman coffins have been discovered under the floor of the Chapter-house of Bristol Cathedral. The sculpture upon the coffins, although very old and somewhat rude, is exceedingly interesting. One of these coffins, the most interesting of the number, has been carefully preserved, and now stands in the vestry. The lid is at least 700 years old.

The new London Free Library and Fine Art Gallery has just received a most interesting collection on loan for three months. The collection consists of 300 beautiful plaques and medallions of Old Woodcut work, mostly designed by Flaxman, R.A., Lady Darnley, and others, the property of Mr. Felix Joseph, and until recently exhibited at Lewes for the benefit of the School of Art in the town.

Mr. Reid has now hung in cases in the King's Library, British Museum, the whole of the fragments of the heroic epics, presented by Miss Bewick to the nation, in anticipation of the bequest in which her late sister concurred. About two-thirds of the impressions from the woodblocks by the artist, which were presented in the same manner, have also been hung in the same place. The *Athenaeum* remarks that lovers of Bewick never had such opportunities of studying his works as this magnificent gift affords.

The new Sculpture Room in the British Museum is nearly completed and ready for decoration. This large room occupies the space formerly occupied by the Egyptian Saloon and by the long narrow gallery parallel to it, which was originally intended for the exhibition of prints and drawings, and was filled with Assyrian bas-reliefs. The visitor can enter the new room by steps at each of its ends, that is from the new corridor of the Print Room and from the Phigalean Room which opens into the Elgin Room.

The death is announced in his seventy-third year, of Mr. Thomas Underwood, author of many works on art matters, etc., the best known of which is "The Building of Birmingham, Past and Present." Mr. Underwood assisted in forming some of the best local collections. He was originally an engraver.

MUSIC.

(FROM THE "OBSERVER.") The fourth Philharmonic concert of the current season was given at St. James's Hall on Thursday last, and attracted a very large audience. The programme was chiefly composed of those standards which were well known to the Philharmonic Society for more than half a century being honourably associated. Beethoven's symphony in C minor, one of the grandest orchestral works in existence, was the leading attraction, and was splendidly played by the band of 80 per-

formers, the finest body of instrumentalists ever brought together in this country. An interesting novelty was presented in Mr. C. Villiers Stanford's overture to *The Veiled Prophet*, an English opera which—by a German text—has been highly successful on the Continent, but has yet to be heard in this country. It ought not to wait much longer for a hearing in England if an opinion on its merits may be formed from the quality of the overture, performed on Thursday last for the first time in London. Although free from any approach to eccentricity or extravagance, and deduced from the examples of classic composers, the overture is full of originality in its themes and their treatment, and shows the handiwork of an accomplished musician. Conducted by the composer, it was received with well-merited applause, and Mr. Stanford was honoured with an unanimous recall. The vocal music was entrusted to Miss Kullerath, a young lady gifted with a good soprano voice which needs further cultivation, and Mr. Maas, whose fine voice was advantageously displayed in the symphony "Contra-Song," from Dr. Bridge's cantata, *Bonadventure*. Mr. Maas subsequently sang in finished style the air, "Waft me, ye zephyrs," from Weber's *Euryanthe*. The concert was honoured with the presence of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and suite.

Kevin's *Choice*, an opera in two acts, composed by Mr. Wallworth, the well-known teacher of singing at the Royal Academy of Music, etc., was produced on Saturday afternoon at the Adelphi Theatre with much success. The work was originally an opera in one act, and in that shape was performed some ten years back by the German Road company. Since then it has been remodelled, and scored for a small orchestra.

The plot, founded on a sketch by Mr. F. Hazlewood, is simple in construction, and relates to the loves of Kathleen (Miss Edith Wynne), an Irish farmer's daughter, and Kevin (Mr. Walsham), a young student, who after sundry difficulties, especially the objection of her father, Beamish (Mr. Pyatt) are happily united. With their adventures are associated those of Patrick (Mr. Wallworth), a young Irish peasant, who successfully woos Kathleen's cousin, Bridget (Miss Lucy Franklin). The action takes place about the end of the last century in an Irish village, and the composer has striven—not without success—to impart an Irish character to many portions of the music. This is specially noticeable in Patrick's song, "The Beauty of Hibernia," a bright melody in E flat, 6-8, cleverly sung by the actor. The scene, "To-day," sung by Kevin, is of a more ambitious kind, and contains many graceful and melodious phrases. The first act concludes with a well-written quartette, with effective passages in the orchestration. In Act II, Kathleen's air, "I cannot be a selfish thought," claims notice. It is melodious and expressive, and merits popularity. Kevin's air, "Awake, awake, oh Maiden fair," is also a favourable specimen of Mr. Wallworth's melodic invention. The act concludes with a quartet finale, in which a melody of major is effectively introduced. Kevin's *Choice* is not an ambitious work, but is so bright and tuneful that it will prove highly acceptable to amateurs in search of an agreeable opera for which no chorus is required. The artists above named acquitted themselves well, and special praise is due to Miss Edith Wynne and Mr. Wallworth. Mr. Karl Meyer conducted with much ability.

We are informed that the company formed for the acquisition of Her Majesty's Theatre at Covent-garden, Theatre, and the concentration of Italian operatic performances at the latter establishment, will shortly be brought before the public. The capital will be £200,000, in 10,000 shares of £20 each, and the remainder in founders' shares" of £1,000 each. A large number of wealthy amateurs have given their support to the undertaking, and the directors will be Lord Lathom, Count Gluchen, Mr. J. H. Renton, Mr. W. M. Eaton, and Mr. Ernest Gye, whose practical knowledge will be of the greatest value.

The performances of the Carl Rosa Opera Company at the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, closed on Saturday.

Mr. Sims Reeves' last concert, previous to his departure on a farewell provincial tour, was given at St. James's Hall. Mr. Reeves sang two songs with great success, and was assisted by several eminent artists—notably by Madame Arabella Goddard, whose finished execution of a Beethoven sonata, and the accompaniment to "Adele" (sung by Mr. Reeves) elicited warm admiration.

THE DRAMA.

GLOBE THEATRE.

To the adaptation of one of Ouida's least worthy fictions, produced on Saturday morning at this theatre, an amount of attention, says the *Observer*, had been attracted which the intrinsic qualities of the work proved not to deserve. Mr. Hamilton has, indeed, made out of *Moths* about as good a play as could reasonably have been expected; but to say so much is to say very little in favour of the piece. The adaptor deserves more praise for that which he has avoided than for anything which he has accomplished, inasmuch as the drama is at any rate not objectionable, except in so far as it is a rather feeble and foolish production.

As is generally the case with adaptors of novels, Mr. Hamilton takes a long time to get to the point, and the first half of the drama is personae who impressed him so deeply in their elaborate study by their creator. His first two acts are taken up mainly with showing us that Lady Dolly Vandereck is a thoroughly scheming mother, that her daughter Vera is a romantic ingenuita, that a singer named Corrie has a lackadaisical love for Vera, whom he irrelevantly implores to "keep herself unsullied from the world," and that Lady Dolly means to marry her daughter to rich, but had Russian Prince, named Sergius Zouroff. All this would be very tedious in its high-flown long-winded talk but for the comicatrics introduced by the aid of Fuschia Leach, a young American lady of many conveniences, and we trust, impossible type, who the intervals of the Duke of Mull's bashful love-making confides to us that her admirer is "dead-mashed" on her, whatever that may be. The third act exhibits not very dramatically the treatment of the young wife, and ends with her determination to retire into exile in his distant Polish castle rather than receive his mistress, the Duchess de Sonnaz, in her house. In the fourth and last act there is more action, but unluckily there is also much talk and too palpable an anti-climax. The admirer who was so anxious for Vera to keep herself unsullied tries to persuade her to leave her cruel husband, but though her purity of nature enables her to resist the temptation, her innocent interview with Corrie in the Castle of Szarala exposes her to Zouroff's natural suspicion. He threatens to kill her lover, but before he can do so is conveniently killed himself in a duel with Lord Jura, another admirer of the heroine. With the death of her lover, Zouroff is left to himself, and he does not look the unutterable things so often looked by tenors, and to make love in a languid, didactic sort of way. Of Lord Jura Mr. Horbert Standing was able to make a much more

manly creature; Miss Addison made a capital Lady Dolly, except as regards the suggestion of the slacker side of her shallow nature; Miss Wiles an amiable Yankes of the accepted stage pattern, and Mr. Edouard, a very clumsy and un-aristocratic Prince Zouroff. *Moths* was carefully placed on the stage, and at the close of the performance the adaptor bowed his acknowledgment of the reception accorded to his effort.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.

The *matinée* at Toole's Theatre on Saturday introduced as *lancer de rideau* new "improbability" or comedietta by a Mr. Aylmer H. Dove, called out *Elbow*. Its hero is an impecunious youth who, while in love with a lady of his own age, engages himself with a rich middle-aged widow who is bound by her late husband's will not to marry again, except to some one less than twenty-five years of age, on peril of losing her property. After some mutual misunderstandings, not, it must be confessed, very original or witty treated, the widow will-freshly or wittily treated, the widow will-freshly in the uncle of her rival a rejected but still faithful lover of days gone by. Matters are thus cleared up for two suitable matches in place of one extremely unsuitable one; and strange provisions of one of the wills so common on the stage, but happily so rare anywhere else, are made to defeat themselves. Of this trifles all that is necessary is made by Mr. Elmore, Miss Ada Mellon, Mr. Westland, and Miss Eliza Johnstone, the last-named performer making, as the widow, the only mark of the representation, in a part quite out of the line with which she is generally associated by London playgoers.

As usual during the period immediately preceding the Easter holidays, theatrical programmes are showing little variation. Drury-lane is still running its popular Christmas "annual of *Robinson Crusoe*, which has passed its one hundred and fiftieth representation, a series of consecutive performances hitherto unrecorded in the annals of this establishment. The realistic drama of *Taken from Life* continues to draw good houses at the Lyceum, and *Romeo and Juliet* is likely to fill the Lyceum for some months to come. *The Lights of London* continue to shine at the Princess's. *Aladdin* is as attractive as ever at the Gaiety. The St. James's, Strand, Prince of Wales's, Globe, Vaudeville, and Court Theatres have made no change. At the Opera House the highly-dramatic comedy of *Mother-in-Law* is now succeeded by the mythological burlesque of *Vulcan*, in which there is a liberal display of feminine charms. *Meg's Diversion* and *Pluto* still constitute the lively programme of the Royalty. *The Black Crook* remains at the Alhambra. *Fourteen Days* is increasing in popularity at the Criterion. *Patience*, preceded by *Mock Turtles*, is still drawing numerous audiences at the Savoy. *Madame Favart* is entering on a new lease of public favour at the Avenue Theatre. The *Star* is starting a favourite drama in *The Green Lanes* of England.

Next autumn *Robert Macaire* will be the opening drama at the Lyceum, with Mr. Henry Irving in the principal character. Mr. David James, who goes to the Haymarket in the summer to act in *The Quaker Girl*, will return to the Lyceum to play Macaire's timorous companion. The next Shakespearean revival will be *Coriolanus*. On the scenic illustration of this play even more money is to be expended than has been laid out on *Romeo and Juliet*.

The 8th April is fixed by Mr. Holland for the revival at the Alhambra of *Babil and Bijou*, the Covent Garden version of which is stated, revised, with new lyrics, by Mr. F. W. Green. It is starting the work of Mr. J. W. Planché is so soon considered to need such treatment. *Babil and Bijou* is to be illustrated by music selected from the most varied sources, the Alhambra company has been strengthened for its representation, and the *Star* is to be taken with the piece as a spectacle. A special morning performance is promised for Easter Monday.

The exact date for the production of *Odette* at the Haymarket next month is not finally fixed, but before it takes place *She Stoops to Conquer* and *A Lesson* will for a week or two take the place of *Ours* in the evening. This arrangement commences on the 8th April.

A certificate was given on Saturday by the surveyor of the Metropolitan Board of Works for the erection of a new theatre, to be devoted to amateur representations, on the site of the Occidental Tavern, in the precincts of the Savoy.

The run of *The Colonel* at the Prince of Wales's is now at length coming to an end. The first anniversary of Mr. Burnand's amusing comedy took place some time ago, and its last weeks are now announced.

Our readers, says the *Era*, will share with us the grief with which we have to announce that the illness from which Mr. H. Forrester was suffering some weeks ago, and from which it was hoped he was recovering, has developed itself in a manner to cause his relatives and his many friends the most serious alarm. His talent as an actor, which was particularly displayed in his impersonation of Iago to Mr. Irving's Othello at the Lyceum, and his private worth and amiability as a man, must make every one lament the malady which at present assails so worthy and gifted a servant of the public.

The present performances of *The Mascotte* at the Royal Comedy come to an end tomorrow night might have been expected. Mr. Henderson has already placed Von Suppe's opera, *Boccaccio*, in rehearsal.

Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft gave a little supper on Saturday evening, the 11th inst., at their residence in Cavendish-square, at which the guests present were the Prince of Wales and Mrs. Langtry. On a recent Sunday evening Mrs. Langtry gave a supper. Among the guests present were Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft and the Prince of Wales.

Considerable progress has been made within the last few days at the new theatre to be called the Novelty in course of construction in Great Queen-street. The wall is already up to the level of the excavations reach twenty feet below the surface of the street. More than a hundred men are daily employed, so that in all probability in a very short space of time another theatre will be opened to the London public.

Some who were present at the Theatrical Fund benefit at Drury-lane, on Monday, were doubtless disappointed by the non-appearance of the Girards—who were announced to wind up the programme. It should be mentioned that the aesthetic grotesque ones declined to appear because they were placed last in the bills. Thus the vanity of eight individuals was allowed to interfere with the good cause of charity. We regret to have to say this, and we sincerely hope never to meet again with such an instance of what, we think, we are entitled to call churlishness. When a praiseworthy institution is to be served, we think personal consideration should be put on one side by those who profess to be interested in it and to have its welfare at heart.—*Era*.

An inquest on the body of the trapeze performer Artois, who fell in his "leap for life" and was killed in the Star Music Hall, Dublin, was opened on Thursday at Mercer's Hospital. It was proved that no blame attached to the proprietor, Mr. Lowrey, as all the apparatus was arranged by the performer himself, and none of it had given way. He had a net with him, but refused to use it, though asked to do so, and the accident occurred through his having

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Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 28—29, 1882.

MR. GLADSTONE AND MR. SEXTON.

The business of the House of Commons was again obstructed on Tuesday by a gratuitous debate on Irish affairs, for the intrusion, or at any rate for the continuance, of which Ministers themselves must be held to be in a great degree responsible. Mr. Sexton, in the exercise of an undoubted, though much-abused right, made some observations which purported to have reference to the vote for purposes of State in Ireland. All that was relevant in his remarks may be very briefly summed up. He urged that as the division on Mr. Marriot's amendment to the *Closure* Resolution is likely to be a close and critical one, as, moreover, the occasion will be a turning-point in the history of Parliament, and certainly will affect very seriously the scope of the activity of the Irish party, it was only right that the members now detained under the Protection Act should be temporarily released, in order that they might come to Westminster and vote. Of themselves they were by no means anxious to come, but yielding to the solicitation of their friends outside, they had formally applied for permission, and that they would come simply to record their vote, would rigidly abstain from all other political action, and, having voted, would go back to gaol. To this appeal Mr. Gladstone's reply, could he have contented himself with saying merely what was necessary, would have been to this effect:—He had not the smallest doubt that the detained members would honourably keep their parole. But any justification that could be alleged for releasing them in order to vote for critical occasion could be alleged also for releasing them to vote on other critical occasions. If this be granted, what reason could be shown for not releasing them for the full discharge of their Parliamentary duties? And if members of Parliament were to be set free to do their work, why should not other persons be set free to do theirs? The concession asked for was refused, in fact, because it was inconsistent with the principle of the Coercion Act, and to grant it would embarrass Government gravely in dealing with other applications. There is excellent sense in this, and we can only regret that Mr. Gladstone weakened the effect of his reply by going into a good deal of wholly extraneous matter. One of the justifications of the *Closure*—one of the hopes, that is to say, cherished by some of its more ardent advocates—is that it will prevent the House from members from "drawing" the Prime Minister and heckling the Irish Secretary. If it fulfils these hopes, it is to be feared that both Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Forster have some discipline of self-denial in store. For the Prime Minister shows himself but too willing to be "drawn" and Mr. Forster seems occasionally to go out of his way for chances of being heckled. Yesterday, for instance, Mr. Gladstone's declaration of almost disappointed that the members of the Party to which Mr. Sexton belonged had not arraigned the general conduct of the Government, and in his reply to the "taunts of that would be tempted to suspect, to a good deal of the matter which he had prepared as an answer to the contemplated attack. The truth is that Mr. Sexton, thinking mainly of the manufacture of grievances for use out of doors, and of stimulating passion with any cry, however hollow, had anticipated Mr. Gladstone's rejoinder by declaring that the motive which would determine Government to reject the appeal was simply and solely the wish to less the adverse votes in the *Closure* division by three. To the old charge that the Coercion Acts were wrong in themselves, and had been obtained under false pretences, he added the comparatively new one that they are now being worked for Party ends. This subtle insinuation of Mr. Sexton had the desired effect. Mr. Gladstone's expansive energy was roused. He contrived to repeat once more his conviction that the division on the question of the Land Act was one of "unapproachable" gravity; and, solemnly declaring that he would not enlarge the field of debate, he made it practically limitless by suggesting that the Land League members had deliberately excited the instincts of barbarism in the charge which they were about to make. It was, in fact, the prelude to a general discussion—Mr. Cowen and his Irish friends throwing the responsibility for outrages on the authors of the Coercion Acts, and the friends of Government throwing it on the signatories of the No-rent Manifesto. Thus passed, and thus will pass again, we fear—whether *Closure* becomes the rule of Parliament or not—in irritating, profitless contention several valuable hours which might have been given to the proper consideration of practical measures. There is no sign that the House was weary of the wrangle. It was exciting, as scenes of theatrical recitation must always be. It was attractive in a sense, for the subject is familiar enough to be intelligible, and yet is susceptible of infinite variety in the treatment. Monotonous as the invective of Irish members often is, their best efforts

to be offensive have a certain fascination. In fact, the grosser the waste of time and the more distressing the character of the utterances of Irish members, the greater is the attraction of an Irish debate. To prevent such painful incidents as that on which we have been commenting we must look to the reserve, the self-control, the common sense of the responsible Leaders of the House. On the Ministerial benches on Tuesday these qualities were sadly lacking, and in an atmosphere of *Closure* they are less likely than ever to develop themselves.—*Standard*.

THE PRIZE FIGHT IN A CHAPEL.

Since Nym stole a pyx English blackguardism has seldom distinguished itself so remarkably as in the late fight in a chapel, which was the subject of a magisterial investigation at Bow-street on Tuesday. Perhaps it may be the success of ruffians in assaulting the members of the Salvation Army which suggested the idea of getting up a so-called "glove-fight" in a building which, whether formally consecrated or not, is yet inseparably connected with the rites and ceremonies of Christianity. Magistrates have regarded the beating of the Salvation people much as Gallio regarded the affair when Sosthenes was beaten before the judgment-seat. We do not assert that Gallio was on the bench at the time; probably he was not; but it is certain that he "cared for none of these things." In various places the magistrates have cared very little when the Salvation Army was assaulted by more or less organised roughs, and when the members of the Army showed their pacific disposition by refusing to "fight with beasts." Reflecting on these things the illogical mind of the rough may have detected some connection between religion and downright blows. To follow this train of reasoning, and determine to "bring off" a fight inside a chapel, was a mere example of what philosophers call the "practical syllogism." As a rule prize-fights, natural or disguised, are fought in some remote out-of-the-way place. You get "the office" and a ticket from any sporting publican or instructor in the noble art of self-defence, or casual "Corinthian" with whom you may have the honour to be acquainted. Then, after rising very early, or, which is preferable, sitting up all night in bad company, a tututorial start is made. The voyage is made to some marshy spot down the river, or the amateurs travel by land to some forsaken and out-of-the-way little station. The ropes are pitched, and a round or two is fought between the Peckham Rye Sneak and Somebody's Novice. The fighting is not usually very resolute in these degenerate days, and fears may be entertained that both the Sneak and the artless Novice have really "sold" the engagement. Many other Generals are said to have done as much; do not let us regard too severely the morals of the modern Ring. When a sufficient number of Corinthians and country people have collected to stare, the police generally appear on the scene, and the patrons of the Ring make off as best they can. The Novice is hustled into an empty outhouse, the Peckham Rye Sneak, perhaps, gets into a passing steamer, and a crowd of London thieves rob everybody right and left in the confusion. Probably the amateur gets home with a torn coat, a black-eye, a broken watch-chain, empty pockets, and a headache. At the worst he can congratulate himself that he "has seen life." Like Mr. Mallock's curate, who had only "seen life" in the shape of a revolver dead drunk. It is a capital thing to see life, and knocks the priggishness out of a man; but the modern prize-fight generally knocks a good deal more than that can worse be spared out of respectable spectators. Obviously there is room for improvement in the arrangements of the modern prize-fight. It occurred to the minds of some sportsmen that to see a battle without travelling a long distance was a desirable thing. St. Andrew's Hall, Tavistock-place, was therefore hired, and it was determined to give an exhibition of the manly art. Mr. St. Andrew's Hall was a church of the Dunbar's chapel, and religious emblems still gave a sort of sanctity to the scene of the "mill." The amateurs were thus enabled to refresh their memories of the Ten Commandments. Who can tell what good seed may thus have been sown in very uncultivated soil? But it is much more probable that a good deal of criticism of the sacred law of Israel was evoked, and that a kind of *lever de rideau* of blasphemy preluded the sparring. The spectacle of a boxing match which may end fatally and of persons of doubtful honesty disporting themselves under the shadow of the sixth and eighth commandments is simply infamous. We do not know of course who is responsible for letting a chapel with its sacred furniture to pugilists. Sherriek (in "Penny-dennis" was not very particular or nice when he speculated in chapels and in the eloquence of Charles Honeyman; but even he would probably have shrunk from letting his altar as a seat for the referee and his alter rails as materials in the making of the ring. It is desirable that this part of the affair should be strictly investigated and the responsible persons publicly charged with their responsibility. We do not remember, even in the annals of the French Revolution, a more disgusting example of profanity than this matter of a boxing match fought among the emblems of religion. Even if the organisers of the match had said, with truth, that they were getting up an assault-arms, to allow single-stick and fencing in a chapel still stored with sacred objects would have been a gross outrage on public decency. Though the battle which really began is described as a "glove-fight," the gloves were by no means of the harmless sort with which Mr. James Crawley proposed to fight his cousin Pitt.—*Daily News*.

MAILS FOR THE EAST.—Numerous inquiries having been made at the offices of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, the directors of that company have requested us to intimate that the operation of the New Postal Time Table, which is to accommodate the Indian public, provides for the departure of the mails from Bombay one day later than heretofore, begins to take effect this week, and that the contract time for the arrival of the Homeward mail, which is to be despatched on Tuesday, will be 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday. This will continue to be the due time for arrival throughout the year, excepting in the Monsoon months, when from the 19th June to the 9th October, the mails will be due in London at 5.30 p.m. on Monday.—*Globe*.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The LORD CHANCELLOR took his seat on the woolsack at five o'clock.

The Married Women's Property Bill passed through committee after some amendments were made. The motion for the second reading of the Bill was carried. The Lord Chancellor, by whom it had been introduced, The Settled Land Bill and the Conveyancing Bill, both introduced by Lord Cairns, were read a third time and passed.

Lord Thorneycroft, against reverting to the Army return bill, moved for a return showing the number of re-enlistments respectively by deserters.

Lord Morley, in reply, said the inaccuracies pointed out by the noble lord were trifling, and he had no doubt that the return would be made. The Government were as anxious as the noble lord could be to stop fraudulent enlistments, and were increasing the precautions against it; but the return asked for was one which could not be supplied.

The motion was withdrawn.

THE CHANNEL PASSAGE.

Lord DUNMORE called the attention of the House to an accident that occurred to the South Eastern Railway Company's steamship *Victoria* on Tuesday, the 21st March, off Boulogne, and moved for a copy of the certificate granted to that vessel by the Board of Trade.

The noble lord stated that he was a passenger on the occasion in question when the machinery broke down under stress of weather, and the ship became quite helpless, drifting with the wind and tide off Cape Grisnez for an hour and a half before the engine was sufficiently repaired to carry her into Calais. The ship was licensed to carry 300 passengers, and had only two small boats, which would only carry eight persons each, and into which he would not have liked to trust himself.

Lord SUDLEY, in reply, said that the vessel was certificated by the Board of Trade to carry 350 passengers. She was bound to carry a jolly-boat capable of receiving 15 passengers besides the crew. It was the fact that while going at 13 knots she broke down. There was a fresh breeze and a rough sea. She had 120 passengers, and she put into Calais at four o'clock.

Lord SUDLEY said the steamer was bound to carry one lifeboat, to contain 25 persons, and a jolly-boat, to hold 15. He was unable to say whether the *Victoria* had those boats on board, but he had no reason to believe that she had.

The motion was agreed to.

Their lordships adjourned at five minutes past six o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

The SPEAKER took the chair at two o'clock. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL gave notice that on Thursday he will bring in a bill dealing with the honours of the peerage, which has been reported as guilty of corrupt practices.

THE DUKES OF ALBANY'S Establishment Bill was passed through Committee.

MR. MACIVER moved the reduction of the Foreign Office to £1,500 in order to express his dissatisfaction with the meagre and misleading answers given by Sir C. Dilke in reference especially to points connected with commercial negotiations, such as the shipping and the sugar duties, which, he contended, were not borne out by the Blue-books.

Sir H. WOLFE took the opportunity of asking the Government what progress was being made with reforms in European Turkey, and of asking them to abstain from the initiative which had been assumed by the late Government.

Sir C. DILKE asserted that the replies complained of by Mr. Maciver were literally accurate, and were confirmed by the Blue-books. He said that the late Government had not abandoned their initiative, but recently they had laid most stress on the reforms in Armenia. They had received the strongest assurances from the Turkish Government, but no positive step had been taken. He said that the late Government had not abandoned their initiative, but recently they had laid most stress on the reforms in Armenia. They had received the strongest assurances from the Turkish Government, but no positive step had been taken.

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of hope. The "No rent" manifesto had virtually failed and rents were being paid to a large extent; but he added, amid loud cheers, that for the maintenance of law and order it might turn out stronger measures were necessary, and he felt certain that the House would do its duty if called on.

Mr. SULLIVAN energetically repudiated complicity with outrages, and pointed out that Mr. Parnell had recommended "boycotting" instead of the old policy of violence. He said that Mr. Parnell maintained that this was wicked advice; but Mr. Daly justified "boycotting" in the circumstances of Ireland.

Mr. GORST asked that the new Irish policy should be shadowed in Mr. Forster's speech should be stated at a time when it could be fully discussed, but Sir S. Northcote thought the Government ought not to be pressed further at this particular moment.

After some observations from Mr. Biggar and Mr. A. Moore, the Report of Supply was agreed to.

At the Evening Sitting, Sir A. GORDON, who was seconded by Mr. Brinton, moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the law which authorises the demanding of mortuary fees and into the ecclesiastical fees levied by ministers of religion on the occasion of burials and the erection of monuments in cemeteries and parish churchyards.

Mr. O. MORGAN, on the part of the Government, offered no objection to the inquiry, and after some observations from Mr. Brinton, Mr. Worsley, Mr. Bulwer, Mr. S. C. Williams, and Mr. Beresford-Hope, the motion was agreed to.

Colonel BARNES was calling attention to the condition of the Army, when the House was adjourned at 11 minutes past 10 o'clock.

FASHIONABLE NEWS.

Prince Christian, accompanied by his nephew, Duke Ernest Günther of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Augustenburg, visited the Prince and Princess of Wales on Tuesday, and remained to luncheon.

The Royal Highnesses, attended by Lady Emily Kingscote and Colonel A. Elliot, visited the studies of Sir Frederick Leighton, P.R.A., and Mr. Val Prinsep, R.A., in Holland-park-road, on Tuesday.

The Earl and Countess of Jersey have left for the South of France till after the Easter recess.

The Earl and Countess of Carnarvon have left Clarendon House for Highclere Castle, Hampshire.

Lord Eskine died on Tuesday night at his residence, Eton-house, Torquay, in his 78th year. His lordship, who was grandson of the famous Lord Chancellor, was formerly in the Bengal Civil Service. He is succeeded in the peerage by his son, the Hon. William Macgregor-Eskine, who was formerly a captain in the 9th Lancers. He also leaves a daughter, the Hon. Margaret Catherine, married to the Rev. Evelyn Burnaby, brother to Colonel Burnaby.

Lord Randolph Churchill, who is staying at Norwood, is reported to be not so well.

LONDON GOSSIP.

After the return of the Queen from abroad it is believed that the season will be unusually brilliant and animated. The visit of the King and Queen of Holland to England—the Queen being an elder sister of the future Duchess of Albany—will be made the occasion of more than the usual Court festivities.

Unfortunately the doors of Stafford House were closed owing to the recent sad bereavement sustained by the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland; but I hear that both at Devonshire and Apsley House sumptuous entertainments will be given in honour of the King and his young bride, and the Duke of Devonshire is expected to do honour to the sovereign of the country whence his family took their origin.

Egerton Lodge, with the fine stud of hunters quartered there, is left by the late Lord Wilton to the present Earl, who, with his splendid income of £70,000 a year, will be the first man in the sporting world, and well worthy of his fine position. To his three daughters, Lady de la Warr, Lady Alice de Vaux, and Lady Katharine Coke, Lord Wilton bequeathed legacies of £10,000 a piece, which, also the reversion. In addition to the jointure of £5,000 a year settled on the Dowager Lady Wilton, a sum of £12,000 in ready money is left her by her husband's will for the purchase of a mansion. The lease of the house in Grosvenor-square becomes the property of the present Earl, and has 27 years more to run.

The approaching marriage of the Duke of Westminster with his young cousin has put the gossiping quidnuncs into a flurry of excitement. The bride, Miss Katherine Cavendish, youngest daughter of Lord and Lady Chesham, and sister of the second Countess of Leicester and of Lady Lytton. She is twenty-four years of age, while the Duke has attained his fifty-seventh year. The bride is the daughter of the Duke and of the late beautiful and popular Duchess of Westminster; so that by this union the Duke will find himself brother-in-law to his daughter and his son-in-law.

The Prince of Wales has sent to Sir Philip Cunliffe Owen, president of the "Savages," a handsome bracelet, with "Good luck" in diamonds upon it, and the request that he will give it as a wedding-present to his daughter, who is going to marry her cousin next month.

Notwithstanding the hurried, not to say the unscientific, way in which the Hygienic Dress Exhibition was got up by the National Health Society to satisfy a demand arising from the more dress, it turned out to be a financially great success. Over £120 was taken at the door in shillings during the fine afternoon of admission, the door being open not more than three hours a day. The Cavendish House, where the exhibition was held, must have been severely taxed to get rid of Cox before the arrival of Box, which had all to be done in the one hour allowed for transition. Until 1 p.m. the room was in active possession of the dancing academy. At 2 p.m. the walls were hung with appalling diagrams, showing the female form anatomically in every stage of derangement from tight-lacing; and the Hygienic Exhibition was not only launched, but crowded. Over the "sensible" shoe department the drawings of distorted feet turned out cold with horror; yet they were taken from living specimens at the hospital, where toes have frequently to be amputated from the feet of frail women, who have voluntarily inflicted on themselves the torture of the "boot." Among the shoes a beautifully mounted specimen of the bones of a perfect human foot was exhibited to show how easily so fine a structure could be put out of joint. Aesthetic costumes, in all their usual hideousness of woeful greens, were displayed alongside of fresh costumes, not less unreasonable, for the requirements of every-day life. The most sensible bodice or petticoat in one, meant for children up to fifteen years of age, was sent by Mrs. G. L. Craik, knitted by herself.

People ask if the lecture on tight-lacing, with its sequel, the Hygienic Dress Exhibition, is likely to do any good. It is actually doing good, the best authority, it is actually doing good,

many women having turned over a new leaf before the terrors of the diagrams, or the little book "Words to Women," which was sold for threepence. So encouraging are the results that the lecture will be published, and again repeated by special request by appointed lecturers in various parts of the country. One old lady, about sixty years of age, declared that since she heard the lecture she had left off stays for ever; and one young woman, who always thought her waist was naturally twenty inches, has now discovered that it ought to be twenty-five, and has allowed for the difference.

I hear there is joy in the camp of the Society for Protecting the Natural Form of Women, which is now having its rules published on the strength of the movement. This society consists entirely of gentlemen, whose object is to "oppose any fashion which may injure or disfigure the beautiful form of woman." They sorrowfully admit that their work is very disheartening, a few conquests notwithstanding.

It is pleasant to find that Lord Howth, whom the Queen recently desired to honour by elevating him in the Peerage, has come extremely well out of the fiery ordeal of the Land Club, some of his rents having been raised far more substantially than Sir Oriel Forster's, to whom the sub-commissioners awarded a half-crown rise.

So the Royal Irish Constabulary have searched Toolmes, the residence of the O'Donoghue, for arms. If the Chief were of good terms with the Irish Office, I should have said he had suggested the act with a view to sustained popularity and his seat in Tralee. In any case, he owes Mr. Forster a good turn for it.

A fact of a somewhat serious nature occurred last week at the Road Club. In the middle of a baccarat one member got up and accused another, an officer in the army, of cheating. The latter made little or no attempt to deny the charge, and was hustled out of the club by four or five members, including one of the committee. A meeting was to have been convened the next day to consider his conduct; but he saved all further trouble by sending in his resignation. The unfortunate man has been since found dead in his bed.

The old English sport of otter-hunting is to be revived in Berkshire. Otters are known to abound in the waters between Theale and Hungerford, and they have been shot in the Thames at Monkey Island and at Reading. A pack has been organised at Newbury, Mr. Benyon, Mr. Mount, Mr. Blyth, Lord Craven, and other large landowners have readily given permission for hunting in the districts over which they have control.

Appropos of the approaching University Bazaar, many curious impressions have been made on the mind of the committee. A meeting was to have been convened the next day to consider his conduct; but he saved all further trouble by sending in his resignation. The unfortunate man has been since found dead in his bed.

The moral beforehand seems to be this. Boating authorities ought surely to get rid of the fallacy about "little men." Two of the best oarsmen ever known were "little men." I allude to Bob Coombes and Mr. Dalgleish. The former held his own as champion against all comers, no matter how many stonies heavier and bigger they were. Mr. Dalgleish, who pulled St. Glib, was for many years the famous stroke of the "Brilliant Leander," which carried all before them on the Thames, at Henley, at Liverpool, and elsewhere.

The Lincoln Meeting must be a paying concern to those who lease the Carlisle from the corporation of Lincoln for racing purposes; but they give the racing public very little accommodation in return for the high charges for admission to the enclosure. The ring is badly kept, and the stand accommodation is simply execrable; while to fight one's way from the stand to the weighing-room, itself sadly too small for the purpose, was an undertaking resembling serious difficulties. Although the Lincolnshire Handicap was probably a false-run race—Buchanan, for one, is pretty certain to improve on the form he then displayed—the result makes Master Waller out to possess a great chance for the City and Suburban, for which the handicapper has not done him well. He is, however, somewhat of a lumbering sort of horse, despite his good looks, and certainly not so suitable in his conformation for the Epsom course as the speedy quickly-actioned Scobell.

Scobell, who, as a two-year-old, was within an ace of winning the Althorp Park Stakes at Northampton, is said to have a stable companion of other men were charged with aiding and abetting, and taking part in a prize fight at St. Andrew's Hall, Tavistock-place, formerly used as a place of worship by Archdeacon Dunbar's congregation; and a number of other men were charged with aiding and abetting, and taking part in a prize fight at St. Andrew's Hall, Tavistock-place.

Smith was further charged with assaulting a policeman; and George Stevens, of John's-place, Whitechapel, a blacksmith, was also charged with assaulting a policeman while in the execution of his duty. The prisoner, George Elliott, alias "Sugar," appeared in the dock with one of his eyes closed, apparently from the effects of a blow.

THE PRIZE FIGHT IN LONDON.

Henry Goodson, twenty, a carman, living in Spitalfields, was charged before Mr. Magistrate Balfour on Tuesday with having committed a breach of the peace, and being one of the principals concerned in a prize fight at the St. Andrew's Hall, Tavistock-place, formerly used as a place of worship by Archdeacon Dunbar's congregation; and a number of other men were charged with aiding and abetting, and taking part in a prize fight at St. Andrew's Hall, Tavistock-place. Smith was further charged with assaulting a policeman; and George Stevens, of John's-place, Whitechapel, a blacksmith, was also charged with assaulting a policeman while in the execution of his duty. The prisoner, George Elliott, alias "Sugar," appeared in the dock with one of his eyes closed, apparently from the effects of a blow.

Inspector Arscott said that about three o'clock on Monday afternoon he was told that a prize fight was about to take place at St. Andrew's Hall. In company with Police-constables Rowan and Scandrell he went to the hall in Tavistock-place. At the door he saw a man who said his name was John George Elliott, of 14, Finsbury-square. He was inside the hall, and two men entered the ring. There was no disturbance at first. A ring was formed in the centre of the hall, which is a large open place. The size of the ring was twenty-four feet square, and the floor was covered with a carpet.

The two men in the ring had nothing on but flannels and trousers. They sparred in a baring for a short time. They left, and two other men came into the ring stripped, and with boxing-gloves on. They sparred a short time and also left. The witness then went for assistance. The prisoner Goodson and another man next entered the ring. They were stripped. They had a pair of light gloves on, not boxing-gloves. They fought with the gloves on. He saw that the other man was across the rope. The bystanders were striking both men across the ropes with sticks. The witness at once, with the aid of the constables, with him, went into the ring to stop the fight. He said, "This must not be allowed; stop the fight." There was then a general rush for the door. The witness was the only police officer in uniform. They detained the prisoner Goodson. All the defendants, with the exception of Lewis, were round the ring. Moss was inside the ring, acting as Goodson's second. The others were all round the ring. The whole of the men urged the men on to fight, shouting, "Go on, Sugar!" Lewis was then outside in the passage, but inside the door. When the rush was made the prisoner Goodson and the other defendants were secured. In the ring there was ice in small baskets, some spirits in a bottle, jars containing water in their hands, and sponges. There was some blood on Goodson, but not on the other man. The man Elliott said he had hired the hall for a few amateurs for a sparring match. He was passing a number of persons in through a turnstile. The witness saw persons let into the hall by the man, but saw no money paid. He said he had hired the hall for a few amateur gentlemen for a sparring match there. He detained the prisoner until the arrival of Superintendent Thomson.

Cross-examined by Mr. Armstrong, on behalf of Goodson, he said he did not hear anything about the Queensberry rules. They had boxing matches in the police, but with proper gloves. The gloves used did not appear to be padded. Goodson kicked the other man, and the witness thought it was a most brutal affair.

Sergeant Rowan gave corroborative evidence, adding that he heard bets of from £2 to £20 made as to the result of the fight, and saw men with books in their hands. The witness Goodson knocked his opponent down in the second round he was unable to rise for several seconds. When Goodson and his opponent entered the ring, the man who acted as referee read some rules, and then held up a cup, which he said was to be held up along with so much money a side. One of the rules read was to the effect that if either of the combatants was knocked down the seconds were not to assist him under pain of disqualification, and he was to be allowed ten seconds to rise. The prisoners were removed to the magistrate's room, where he had never heard of such a revolting case in his life. The prisoners would be admitted to bail in two sureties of £40 each, and their own recognizances in a like sum, twenty-four hours' notice to be given to the police.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

CARNARVON BOROUGH.—The election took place on Tuesday; and at 9.15 the result was declared as follows:—
Mr. Jones Parry (Liberal) . . . 2,037
Mr. Sorton Parry (Independent) . . . 596

Majority . . . 1,441

The number of votes recorded was 2,650, out of a constituency of 4,500. There was no contest in 1880. Mr. Bulkeley Hughes (Liberal) being returned unopposed. The successful candidate, after the declaration of the poll, addressed a crowd of electors in Castle-square. Mr. Sorton Parry attempted to address the crowd from the Castle Hotel, but was refused a hearing. Mr. Love Duncombe Jones Parry, of Madryn, near Pwllheli, Carnarvonshire, who has been elected in the place of the late Mr. Bulkeley Hughes, was born in 1832. He is the only surviving son of the late Lieutenant-General Sir Love Parry Jones Parry, K.C.B., Madryn, who sat as M.P. for the Carnarvon Boroughs in the Parliament of 1835-7; his mother was Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr. Thomas Caldecott, of Holton-hall, Lincolnshire, and cousin of the first Lord Palmerston. The new member was educated at Rugby and at University College, Oxford, and was formerly a captain in the Royal Anglesia Light Infantry Militia. He is a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant for Carnarvonshire, and served as High-Sheriff of the county in 1854. Mr. Jones Parry is for the county of Carnarvon from 1868 to 1874, when he was defeated by Mr. Douglas-Pennant. He will be the 58th member to take his seat in St. Stephen's since the last general election. His election to the present Parliament makes no alteration in the strength of parties.

EAST CORNWALL.—Mr. Charles Acland (Liberal) and Mr. John Tremayne (Conservative) were nominated as candidates on Tuesday at the Shire-hall, Bodmin. The polling is fixed for Friday.

DEATH OF MR. THOMAS JONES BARKER.

The Times says:—We regret to have to announce the death of the well-known artist, Mr. Thomas Jones Barker, which took place at his residence on the 27th inst. Mr. Barker was the eldest son of Thomas Barker, of Bath, painter of the celebrated picture of "The Woodman." He was born in Bath in 1815, went to Paris in 1835 to study his profession, and then became a pupil of Horace Vernet, in whose studio he remained for many years. During his residence in Paris, Mr. Barker frequently exhibited at the Salon, and at different times received three gold medals for the excellence of his works. He painted several pictures for Louis Philippe, the chief one being "The Death of Louis XIV.," which was afterwards destroyed during the Revolution of 1848. In 1840 Mr. Barker painted "The Bride of Death," for the Princess Marie, youngest daughter of Louis Philippe, for which he was made a Knight of the Legion of Honour. Mr. Barker is probably better known in England as a portrait painter and a painter of military subjects. Among numerous others of his well-known works may be mentioned "The Meeting of Wellington and Blucher," "The Allied Generals before Sebastopol," "The Relief of Lucknow," "General Williams leaving Kars," Napoleon after the Battle of Bassano, or the Lesson of Humanity," "Wellington Crossing the Pyrenees," "Lord Nelson receiving the Swords of the Spanish Officers on board the *San Joseph*," "The Surrender of Napoleon III. at Sedan," all of which were exhibited and engraved. Among other works of the artist of the "Death of the Princess," "The Meeting of the Hussars and the 4th Light Dragoons returning to the English lines after the memorable charge of the Light Brigade. Many of the most distinguished men of their time have given sittings to Mr. Barker, among them the late Earl of Beaconsfield, then Mr. Disraeli, and the portrait then painted is now, we believe, in the possession of the Queen.

